

## = Watershed Conservation Authority =



# Board Reports May 22, 2006

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

The public meeting of the  
**Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA)**  
will be held on  
**Monday, May 22, 2006**  
**At 3:30 p.m.**

(Or immediately upon conclusion of the RMC meeting, whichever is later)  
at the following location:

**Rosemead Community Center, Garvey Room**  
**9108 Garvey Avenue**  
**Rosemead, CA 91770**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment

*Individuals wishing to comment must fill out a comment card at the meeting for the official record and will be allowed two minutes to speak, and representatives of organizations/agencies will be allowed three minutes to speak. Speaker time may be reduced depending on the number of speakers*
3. Approval of the March 20, 2006 meeting minutes
4. Chair's Report
5. Deputy Attorney General's Report
6. Executive Officer's Report
7. Regular Calendar
  - A. Consideration of resolution accepting a grant amendment to the Azusa River Wilderness Park Grant (RMC3260) from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.
  - B. Consideration of resolution accepting a grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the Azusa River Wilderness Park Planning and Implementation project (RMC3596).
  - C. Consideration of resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Azusa regarding the Taylor property, Azusa River Wilderness Park
  - D. Consideration of resolution authorizing a residential lease agreement with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) and MRCA ranger for the El Encanto property.
  - E. Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Blue Green Open Space Planning & Design for planning services associated with the Azusa River Wilderness Park.
  - F. Consideration of resolution authorizing the release of a request for proposals for Relocation Services for the El Encanto property.
8. Statements, responses, questions or directions to staff pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code
9. Announcement of next meeting date – June 26, 2006
10. Adjournment

## Agenda

*Public participation is welcome on any agenda item. Members of the public wishing to address the Governing Body on any item should address the Chair. During the meeting the governing board may hold a closed session on any item pursuant to Government Code sections 54956.8 and 54956.9. In advance of the meeting, questions about the agenda items should be addressed to Belinda Faustinos at (626) 458-4315.*

*Note: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Board Secretary at (626) 458-4315 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

Directions: From the 10 Freeway, exit Rosemead Boulevard going south.  
At Garvey Avenue, make a right and cross the Rio Hondo Bridge.  
The Rosemead Community Center is on the left just past the bridge.

**MINUTES  
BOARD MEETING  
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (WCA)  
March 20, 2006**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** 1:08 pm – Progress Park Plaza Auditorium, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Dan Arrighi, Mr. Chuck Bookhammer (for Supervisor Burke), Chair Frank Colonna, Mr. J. Gomez (for Supervisor Antonovich), Ms. Connie Sziebl (for Supervisor Knabe), Mr. Don Wolfe and Vice Chair Margaret Clark.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ms. Norma Garcia (for Supervisor Molina)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Belinda Faustinos, Executive Officer  
Terry Fujimoto, Deputy Attorney General  
Valerie Thompson, Executive Secretary

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were forthcoming.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 23, 2006 MINUTES**

No corrections were noted.

**Mr. Gomez motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Arrighi seconded the motion.  
Unanimously passed.**

**4. CHAIR'S REPORT**

No report given.

**5. DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT**

No report given.

**Ms. Sziebl arrived at approximately 1:10pm.**

**6. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Executive Officer gave a brief update on the infrastructure bonds; including the AB134. It was noted that the infrastructure bonds did not receive sufficient votes to be included on the June ballot.

The financial report for the WCA was included in the Board report. There was a discussion regarding Southern California Edison's policy regarding long-term leases.

**7. PRESENTATION BY EDAW ON DUCK FARM PLANNING ACTIVITIES.**

Mr. Vaughn Davies, EDAW, gave an in-depth presentation on the Duck Farm planning efforts which included an overview of EDAW; parks and recreation experience, public agency clients, staff resources, and sub-consultants. Relevant experience included; Taylor Yard and Los Angeles (Cornfield) State Historic Park. Project approach consists of phase one; analysis and findings, phase two; development of alternative, phase three; articulation of preferred plan, and phase four; CEQA documentation. It was noted that EDAW would conduct three workshops; visioning, alternative, and final.

Michele Vadon, informed that Board that the Mayor and City Manager of the City of Industry had a productive meeting with RMC staff and EDAW, and that they have desire to participate and possibly provided monetary assistance.

A press release regarding the meeting will go out in the local newspaper.

**8. REGULAR CALENDAR**

**A. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT AMENDMENT FOR WCA3260 TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EL ENCANTO PROPERTY WITHIN THE AZUSA RIVER WILDERNESS PARK.**

The contractor provided staff with a more comprehensive budget estimate for the site and waterline improvements. The proposed renovations will be made with the idea that the site would be used for administrative offices for both the RMC and WCA, in order to support public uses of the site. There is an updated relocation plan for the tenants on the site and relocation expenses will be incurred when the tenants are required to move. Although the process could take up to a year, it was requested that funding be set aside for that purpose. Board members showed an interest in possibly incorporating an equestrian site on the property.

It was noted that staff received nine (9) proposals for the planning phase of the project ranging from \$100,000 to \$280,000. It was also noted that staff would make a recommendation to the Board to request additional funding from residual funds from projects, that have not been encumbered or that have been set aside, for a good quality conceptual site plan for the El Encanto property and surrounding wilderness park. It was further noted that there would not be adequate funding for any type of implementation and it would be dependent upon another funding sources. Mr. Bookhammer voiced concerns regarding the lack of funds to meet ADA requirements. The Executive Officer advised that, initially, there was an ADA budget for a ramp and an ADA retrofit of the bathroom as well.

**Mr. Arrighi moved to adopt the resolution; Mr. Gomez seconded the motion.  
Unanimously passed.**

**B. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING PARK RULES FOR WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY PROPERTY, EL ENCANTO AND RECOGNITION OF THE MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY'S ORDINANCE.**

A copy of the ordinance was provided and the Executive Officer explained that staff was not requesting the Board to adopt the ordinance rather to have the Board recognize the ordinance in order to post park rules that rangers, employed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), will be able to enforce. It was noted that a portion of the citation revenue would be allocated to the WCA. An example of the signage was also provided and it was noted that one sign would be sufficient.

**Chair Colonna moved to adopt the resolution; Vice Chair Clark seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.**

**C. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PLANNING GRANT.**

The Executive Officer explained that along with two other entities in the Los Angeles region, the WCA was authorized and awarded a grant for this project and the Department of Water Resources has called for execution of the grant by all three entities.

**Mr. Gomez moved to adopt the resolution; Mr. Bookhammer seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.**

**9. STATEMENTS, RESPONSES, QUESTIONS OR DIRECTIONS TO STAFF PURSUANT TO SECTION 54954.2(a) OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE.**

None

**10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE**

The meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 24, 2006. Staff will poll Board members for availability and possible change of future meeting day from the third to the fourth Monday of the month.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:20pm.

**DATE:** **March 22, 2006**  
**TO:** **RMC Governing Board**  
**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**  
**SUBJECT:** **Item 6A: Executive Officer's Report- Legislation and Initiatives**

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For full text and history of bills and initiatives, please visit these web sites:

Federal Bills <http://thomas.loc.gov>  
State Bills <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>  
Initiative Measures <http://www.caag.state.ca.us/initiatives/activeindex.htm>

Current as of 05/15/2006

### **Executive Orders**

President Bush announced an executive order that would allow Governors 18 months to submit petitions to either stop or allow road building and other construction on land where it will now be permitted. Congresswoman Hilda Solis (El Monte) issued a strongly worded statement opposing this reversal of the Clinton policy. In response, Governor Schwarzenegger announced an agreement with the US Forest Service to protect 4.4 million California acres left vulnerable to construction under the new administration rules.

### **Federal Legislation**

1. H.R. 280 Miller: Brownfields Redevelopment Enhancement Act to facilitate the provision of assistance by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the cleanup and economic redevelopment of brownfields. Grants may be made by the Secretary of HUD, with procedures to be established. Grant funds are to be appropriated. Pilot program shall be developed. Amendment would de-link Section 108 loan program, as criteria to access these funds. Latest Major Action: 12/13/2005 Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. 12/14/2005 Referred to Senate committee: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
2. H.R. 355 Schiff (S153 Feinstein): Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act -- A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a joint special resources study to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Rim of the Valley Corridor as a unit of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and for other purposes. Latest Major Action: 2/10/2005: Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks.
3. H.R. 427 Udal: Environmental Justice Act of 2005, would require Federal agencies to develop and implement policies and practices that promote

environmental justice. Expected outcome is for Federal agencies to develop strategies that identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects or disproportionately low benefits of its programs, politics and activities with respect to minority, low income and Native American populations. Calls for creating an Interagency Working Group comprised of the heads of executive agencies, offices and departments, and an 25-member citizen advisory committee both appointed by the President. Latest Major Action: 2/25/2005 Referred to House Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials.

4. S153 Feinstein: Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a resource study of the Rim of the Valley Corridor in the State of California to evaluate alternatives for protecting the resources of the Corridor, and for other purposes. Last Major Action: 7/26/2005 Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. 8/1/2005 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks.

## **State Legislation**

1. ACA 13 Harman, Jones, and Mullin: Proposal intended to provide exemptions for direct assessments that relate to sewer, water, and refuse collection services upon the approval by a majority vote of the property owners. This measure would exclude from these voter approval requirements, a fee or charge related to flood control, storm water drainage, or surface water drainage. This bill, in its current form, would not include costs associated with maintenance, of flood control district owned property used for a multiple use (such as bikeways or passive parks and flood control). Last Major Action: 05/04/2005 In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.
2. AB 17 Koretz: This bill would add to the Public Resource Code, regarding solid waste. The bill states what types of public areas must have litter receptacles, and the proper use of those receptacles. Last Major Action: 05/26/2005, referred to Committee on Environmental Quality.
3. AB 134 Nunez: This bill would enact A Plan for California's Future: The Traffic Safety and Congestion, Flood Protection, Clean Water, Schools, and Parks Act to authorize \$39,591,000,000 of state general obligation bonds. The bond act would allocate \$10,400,000,000 for the purposes of financing specified safe drinking water, water quality, flood control, and natural resource protection programs. Last Major Action: 03/11/2006 Read third time. Urgency clause refused adoption.
4. AB 371 Goldberg: Known as the Water Recycling Act of 2005, this bill would amend various sections of the state's Health and Safety Code, and the Water Code relating to water. This bill would exclude defining recycled water as waste and require that the state water board provide incentives for recycling water. This bill would make the reclamation requirements applicable to recycled water. The bill would further allow and authorize the regional water board to allow

recycled water to be used by fire agencies to prevent the destruction of life, property or the environment in a catastrophic fire. **Last Major Action:** **5/15/06, moved to inactive file.**

5. **AB 715 Levine:** This bill would require the Governor, prior to making a decision regarding any state action to be taken with respect to inventoried roadless areas in the state, and in response to a proposed change in specified federal laws governing those inventoried roadless areas, to consult with the members and staff of the appropriate legislative committees, and to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report containing information on any proposed state action affecting the management of those inventoried roadless areas. **Last Major Action:** 02/27/2006 To inactive file on motion of Assembly Member Frommer.
6. **AB 1200 Laird:** This bill would require the Department of Water Resources to evaluate the potential impacts on water supplies derived from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta resulting from subsidence, earthquakes, floods, and climate change, changes in precipitation, temperature, and ocean levels, and a combination of those impacts. The bill would require the department and the Department of Fish and Game to identify, evaluate and comparatively rate the principal options available to implement certain objectives that relate to the delta or the Sacramento and San Joaquin river systems. The bill would require the departments to jointly report to the Legislature and the Governor the results of their evaluations and comparative ratings, as specified, no later than January 1, 2008. **Last Major Action:** 10/6/2005 Approved by the Governor, Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 573, Statutes of 2005.
7. **AB 1201 Laird:** This bill would revise the description of the Sierra Nevada Region for purposes of the conservancy. This bill would specify that the conservancy may not acquire a fee interest in real property by purchase. The bill would also authorize the conservancy to receive bequests and devises. **Last Major Action:** 9/6/2005 Approved by the Governor, Chaptered by Secretary of State – Chapter 227, Statutes of 2005.
8. **AB 1269 Pavley:** Clean Air, Clean Water, Coastal Protection and Parks Act (2007). If adopted, would authorize financing and issuance of state obligation bonds. Amounts are not specified. There are four main sections of this bill: Clean Air which includes as yet unspecified amounts of funds for the reduction of pollution caused by diesel trucks, school buses, and agricultural sources. Under the Clean Water Chapter, there are subsections that specify that amounts shall be set aside for the Santa Monica Bay, State Coastal Conservancy, SF Bay, San Diego River Conservancy and the Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel Conservancy (RMC) but no actual numbers are included. The final section is for parks and wildlife, and it mentions other statewide conservancies by name, as well as urban park programs that would be replenished with new bond funds, should this be approved by the legislature. **Last Major Action:** 01/31/2006 From committee: Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56. Died pursuant to Art. IV, Sec. 10(c) of the Constitution.

9. AB 1524 Laird and Nava: This bill would require the California Coastal Commission to establish a system to track an offer to dedicate property or an easement that occurs as a result of mitigations for coastal development that reduces coastal access, habitat, or views. Last Major Action: 02/23/2006 Consideration of Governor's veto stricken from file. VETOED.
10. **AB 1649 Liu:** Existing law establishes the Pasadena Metro Blue Line Construction Authority for the purpose of awarding and overseeing all design and construction contracts for the Los Angeles-Pasadena Metro Blue Line light rail project. The construction authority's governing board is currently comprised of 5 voting members and one nonvoting member who is appointed by the Governor. This bill would change the name of the construction authority to the Metro Foothills Gold Line Construction Authority and revise the composition of its governing board's membership. The bill would authorize the appointing entity to remove members of the board at any time and appoint a replacement. The bill would specify a schedule for construction of the light rail project and would require the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to submit a financial plan to the Legislature for this construction. By requiring this report, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Last Major Action: Jan. 31 From committee: Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56. Died pursuant to Art. IV, Sec. 10(c) of the Constitution.
11. AB 1783 Nunez: This bill would state the intent of the Legislature, in enacting the California Infrastructure, Improvement, Smart Growth, Economic Reinvestment, and Emergency Preparedness Financing Act of 2006, to provide for the financing of state and local government infrastructure through various funding sources, including bonds, fees, assessments, and other sources. The financing would be used to fund purposes such as transportation, flood control, safe water systems, environmental improvement, housing, hospital seismic safety repair, and emergency public safety communications equipment, among others. Last Major Action: 1/4/06: Read first time. To print. 1/5/06: From printer. May be heard in committee February 4.
12. **AB 2134 Harman:** Natural resources: funding: coastal wetlands maintenance. An act to amend and repeal Section 6217 of, and to add Section 6217.9 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to natural resources, making an appropriation therefore, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately. Last Major Action: 3/23/06 Re-referred to Committee on Natural Resources.
13. AB 2188 Blakeslee: Natural resources: conservation easements. Existing law authorizes, under various provisions of law, certain state agencies or entities to acquire conservation easements from property owners. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to facilitate the use of federal and private funds for the acquisition of conservation easements for the purposes of preserving working landscapes and protecting habitat resources. Last Major Action: 02/23/2006 From printer. May be heard in committee March 25.

14. AB 2314 Leno: Forestry: California Forest Legacy Program Act of 2000. The California Forest Legacy Program Act of 2000 establishes the California Forest Legacy Program to conserve private forest lands and that act remains in effect until January 1, 2007. This bill would extend the repeal date of the California Forest Legacy Program Act of 2000 to January 1, 2010. Last Major Action: 4/6/06 From committee: Amend, do pass as amended, and re-refer to Committee on Appropriations. 4/26/06 In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to Appropriation suspense file.
15. AB 2479 Cogdill: This bill would make various findings and declarations regarding the impact of noxious and invasive weeds on California. This bill would increase the percentage of Noxious Weed Management Account funds that shall be made available to the department to 10%. This bill would also appropriate \$2,500,000 annually from the General Fund to be deposited into the Noxious Weed Management Account. Last Major Action: 5/10/06 In Committee of Appropriations: Set, first hearing. Referred to Appropriations suspense file.
16. AB 2577 Wolk: Open space and agricultural land. ~~Property tax revenue allocations: county equity amount. This bill would, for the 2006-07 fiscal year, require the auditor of a qualified county, as defined, to increase the amount of ad valorem property tax revenue allocated to that county by the county equity amount, as defined, and to commensurately reduce the amount of ad valorem property tax revenue allocated to that county's Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund. This bill would also require that ad valorem property tax revenue allocations made in subsequent fiscal years fully incorporate the allocation adjustments required by the bill. By imposing new duties on local officials in the annual allocation of ad valorem property tax revenues, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. Existing law provides various incentives to preserve open space and agricultural land. This bill would declare the Legislature's intent to enact legislation that would provide new fiscal and tax incentives with regard to counties that preserve open space and agricultural land, as provided.~~ Last Major Action: 4/6/2006 Amend, and re-refer to Committee on Local Government. Read second time and amended. 5/10/2006 In Appropriations Committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.
17. AB 2699 Emmerson: Habitat mitigation. Existing law permits the Department of Fish and Game to enter into contracts for fish and wildlife preservation, restoration, and enhancement with public and private entities whenever the department finds that the contracts will assist in meeting the department's duty to preserve, protect, and restore fish and wildlife. Existing law generally permits the department to grant funds for fish and wildlife habitat preservation, restoration, and enhancement, as prescribed. This bill would enact the Habitat Mitigation Act of 2006, which would ~~express the intent of the Legislature to~~

~~prescribe requirements for land preserved for open space and habitat mitigation relating to the management and preservation of those lands. require an entity that agrees to accept responsibility for the preservation and maintenance of any land set aside for mitigation purposes by the department or any other state or local entity to create a management plan and conduct biological studies, as specified. The bill would also require the department to conduct annual audits to ensure that all endowment moneys, as defined, are used for habitat management and preservation.~~ Last Major Action: 04/20/2006 Referred to Committees on Water, Parks & Wildlife and Local Government. Joint Rule 62(a), file notice waived. From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife. Read second time and amended. 4/27/2006 From committee: Do pass, and re-refer to Committee on Appropriations.

18. **AB 2838 Pavley:** This bill would establish the Coastal Environment Motor Vehicle Mitigation Program, which, until January 1, 2020, would authorize the conservancy to request that the Department of Motor Vehicles collect a fee of up to \$6, upon the registration or renewal of registration of every motor vehicle registered in an eligible county that elect to participate in the program, as provided. The bill would create the Coastal Environment Motor Vehicle Mitigation Account in the State Coastal Conservancy Fund of 1984, for the purpose of receiving and disbursing funds derived from those fees collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Last Major Action: In Committee on Appropriations: Set, first hearing. Referred to Appropriations suspense file.
19. **SB 153 Chesbro:** California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2006. This bill would propose to enact the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2006, which, if adopted, would authorize the issuance, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, of bonds in the amount of \$3,945,000,000. \$40,000,000 would go to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. Last Major Action: 9/2/2005 From committee with author's amendments. Read second time. Amended. Re-referred to committee.
20. **SB 1125 Chesbro:** Existing law requires the Controller to annually transfer specified amounts from the Resources Trust Fund to the Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Account, the Marine Life and Marine Reserve Management Account, the State Parks System Deferred Maintenance Account, and the Natural Resources Infrastructure Fund, in order of priority, for specified uses upon appropriation by the Legislature. The bill, instead of requiring the Controller to annually transfer the amounts specified in existing law from the Resources Trust Fund to those accounts and that fund, would require the Controller to annually transfer from the Resources Trust Fund, \$10,000,000 to the Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Account, \$5,000,000, for 10 years, to the Coastal Wetlands Account, which the bill would create in the Resources Trust Fund, \$10,000,000 to the Marine Life and Marine Reserve Management

**Account, \$10,000,000 to the Nongame Fish and Wildlife Program Account, which the bill would create in the Resources Trust Fund, \$10,000,000 to the State Parks System Deferred Maintenance Account, \$5,000,000 to the Wetlands and Riparian Habitat Conservation Account, which the bill would create in the Resources Trust Fund, and the remainder to the Natural Resources Infrastructure Fund, in order of priority, for specified uses, upon appropriation by the Legislature.**

21. SB 1673 Kuehl: State parks: funding. This bill would ~~state that it is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that adequate funding exists to cover actual costs of ongoing maintenance and operation of the state park system, and that revenue for these purposes may come from public funds or by directing funding from philanthropic support and private authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to fund ongoing maintenance and operation of the state park system with public funds or by obtaining funds through philanthropic support and private-public partnerships to the state park system.~~ Last Major Action: 04/04/2006 From Committee on Rules with author's amendments. Read second time. Amended. Re-referred to committee. 05/08/2006 Placed on Appropriations suspense file.
22. SB 1795 Machado: Groundwater recharge. Under existing law, the right to water or to the use of water is limited to that amount of water that may be reasonably required for the beneficial use to be served. Existing law declares that the storing of water underground, and related diversions for that purpose, constitute a beneficial use of water if the stored water is thereafter applied to the beneficial purposes for which the appropriation for storage was made. This bill would declare that the recharging of a groundwater basin ~~for the purpose of storage, and related diversions for that purpose, by a local agency for the purpose of repelling saline intrusion and recovering basin groundwater levels~~ constitutes a beneficial use of water if the recharge is consistent with management objectives set forth in a local agency's groundwater management plan. Last Major Action: 04/18/2006 From committee on Natural Resources with author's amendments. Read second time. Amended. Re-referred to committee. 05/10/2006 Read second time in Committee on Appropriations. To third reading.

**DATE:** **May 22, 2006**

**TO:** **RMC Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 6B: Executive Officer's Report- Project and Liaison Activities**

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Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council (Watershed Council): The Watershed Council continues to focus on development of a revised strategic plan. The May 17, 2006 stakeholder meeting will focus on a discussion about "Greening Public Schools." This discussion will include topics such as: As the Los Angeles Unified School District builds new schools and retrofits old ones, how will they manage stormwater? What lessons have we learned from Multnomah, Broadus, and Open Charter Schools? Is there a model for stormwater management methods in schools? There will be discussions on lessons learned and next steps for public schools in Los Angeles. There will be speakers from NorthEast Trees, TreePeople, and the LAUSD to talk about their experiences and plans.

Habitat and Science Panel (HSAP): The last meeting of the Habitat and Science panel was held January 17, 2006. The HSAP provided review and guidance on the draft scope of work for the Historical Ecology of the RMC Territory project. The HSAP also determined that the Los Angeles Task Force Wetlands Recovery Project group would be the best group to provide stakeholder input for the Historical Ecology project. The project team for the Historical Ecology project presented the project to this group on May 3, 2006. The HSAP will likely meet during the summer or early fall to review status of both projects.

San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority (SGRDCA): The schematic plans for the Discovery Center have been in final comment, review and revision since released in draft form on January 26, 2006. These plans will form the basis for the CEQA and NEPA environmental review process, anticipated to begin in July. The Authority's partner, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation will cover the cost of the environmental analysis, supported by EDAW as their consultant. Cost estimates for this LEED Platinum level green building and related site work and life cycle cost benefit analysis have been released in draft form and are under revision, based upon JPA partner comments. Fundraising can begin in earnest for the project in the near future, using these documents and information as the basis for grant writing and other approaches. Currently, the RMC grant covers direct project costs, with the contributions from other partners covering expenses not eligible for RMC grant fund uses. The RMC is also contributing significant staff time to provide interim project management services. The RMC website hosts a summary of the project at:  
[http://www.rmc.ca.gov/discovery\\_center\\_authority/discovery\\_center.html](http://www.rmc.ca.gov/discovery_center_authority/discovery_center.html)

Chapter 8, Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan: This project continues to be a major effort for the RMC. As Chair of the Lower San Gabriel and LA Rivers sub region and member of the Greater Los Angeles County Region Leadership Committee the RMC and WCA have significant input on this process. Monthly meetings are taking place for steering committees, stakeholders and the leadership

committee. Updated information on this Plan can be obtained at the following web site: [www.lawaterplan.org](http://www.lawaterplan.org).

ASCE Watershed Infrastructure Workgroup: No new activity to report on this item.

National Park Service (NPS) San Gabriel River Watershed Special Resource Study (Study): No further activity has been recorded this period but information is available at:

<http://www.nps.gov/pwro/sangabriel>.

Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP): The Los Angeles County Task Force (Task Force) for the WRP met on May 4, 2006. The first item on the agenda was a presentation of the Historical Ecology of the San Gabriel River Watershed project (funded by RMC grant 3556). Presentation to the Task Force was provided because the membership constitutes the end users of the databases and information resulting from this grant. As stakeholders, the Historical Ecology project team was able to give visibility of the project, and to seek feedback on the progress of their work.

The second item on the Task Force agenda was review of small grant proposals for the region. Each entity was allowed time to pitch the critical elements of their grant proposal to the Task Force. The Task Force was provided a rating matrix, to be utilized in determining which grant(s) would be funded.

Upper Santa Clara River: No meeting was held this period. A related action item for funding of an acquisition is on the RMC agenda for this board meeting. Staff plans to meet with a representative from National Parks Service Pacific Crest Trail Project in the coming weeks to discuss common goals and resources in the upper Santa Clara Watershed.

Green Visions Plan: Staff expects to have a presentation to the Board at the next meeting of accomplishments for this Plan. Significant progress has been made in completion of Phase II tasks including the publication on the web of new reports which can be found at:

[www.greenvisionsplan.org](http://www.greenvisionsplan.org).

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA): The next meeting of the LCWA will take place on May 25, 2006. The purpose of this meeting will be to consider approval of the Bryant property acquisition in the City of Long Beach.

**DATE:** **May 22, 2006**

**TO:** **RMC Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 6C: Review and Status Discussion of Approved Grant Projects**

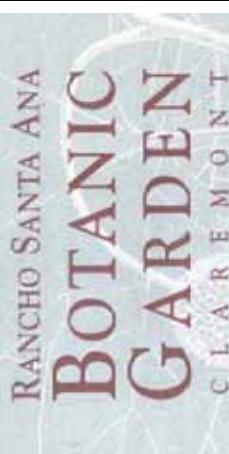
The purpose of this report is to provide a monthly update as to the status of each approved project under Proposition 40 and Proposition 50. The information contained in the reports is project name, applicant name, allocated amount, and the project status. The report is also sorted in alphabetical order by project name. The status section for each grant has been updated to provide additional detail on the grantees' current activities and progress toward project completion.

New this month at the request of the Board is a photo for each project. At such time that there are "after" photos available they will be added to this report. Staff will post this report to the RMC web site.

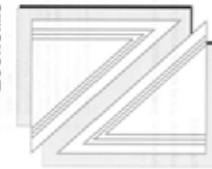
## COMPLETED PROJECTS

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
	Aquarium of the Pacific Education Center Expansion	Aquarium of the Pacific	3257	This project expanded the footprint of the Long Beach Aquarium to provide greater visual and physical connections to the Pier and to the harbor and port, and to provide greater physical space to expand and enrich the environmental programming. Related Project: RMC 3570 (still active) continues project development.	Planning + Development	\$390,000
	Aquarium of the Pacific Educational Programs	Aquarium of the Pacific	3256	A ten session, five week workshop was conducted which involved fifth and sixth graders from Long Beach Unified School District and regional experts. The goal was to create a future model for Long Beach to become a sustainable coastal community based on an exploration of alternative futures.	Interpretation	\$12,000
	Azusa Open Space and Access Plan	San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy	3286	This grant included portions of the activities associated with the development of an Azusa Canyon River Wilderness Park Master Plan and provided for coordination and administration of other River related planning activities in the City of Azusa.	Planning	\$86,400

**COMPLETED PROJECTS**

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
	Cha'wot Nature Preserve (Appraisal)	City of Signal Hill	3305	This grant funded the appraisal for the North Slope property of Signal Hill. In 2/06, the City Council adopted the recommendation of the Council-appointed task force to pursue acquisition of 11 acres of the North Slope. The Council identified 4 acres as the initial target of acquisition. The appraisal determined the highest and best uses based upon the constraints identified in the geotechnical study. Related projects: RMC 3211-Geotechnical studies & RMC 3306-Acquisition (not yet funded).	Acquisition	\$20,000
	Cha'wot Nature Preserve (Geotechnical Studies) see RMC 3305 & 3306	City of Signal Hill	3211	This grant funded geotechnical studies, which are complete, and the project was closed in September 2004. Related projects: RMC 3305-Appraisal & RMC 3306-Acquisition (not yet funded).	Planning	\$20,000
	Children's Native Plant Garden	Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	3217	Planning project for a 3/4 acre children's native plant garden for children ages 4-7. The garden will highlight regionally significant indigenous communities and will incorporate interpretive exhibits on plant-animal interactions.	Planning	\$55,000
	RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN CLAREMONT	Claremont Hills Wilderness Park	3202	Acquisition of 240 acres in the Claremont foothills to augment the 1200-acre Claremont Hills Wilderness Park and complete Wilderness Park trail loop; includes installation of interpretive signage highlighting the biological, cultural, and historical significance of the area.	Acquisition	\$1,073,00
No photo	Development of Procedures for Project Funding Criteria	Watershed Conservation Authority	3565	RMC grant to WCA to enter into a professional services contract for development of FY 04/05 procedures for project funding criteria. The Dangermond Group was recommended to be awarded the contract.	Planning	\$90,000

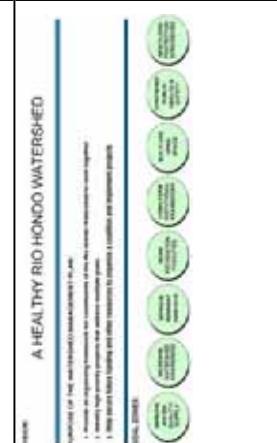
## COMPLETED PROJECTS

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	WATERSHED MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES ECONOMIC VALUATION MODEL <small>FEbruary 26, 2008</small> COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIVISION	Economic Value for Watershed Management Techniques Study	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	3212	A method was developed to evaluate the monetary value derived from watershed improvement projects and enhancements. A user-friendly spreadsheet model that was created can be used to determine a benefit/cost ratio for a project.	Planning	\$50,000
	Educational Program on Urban Forestry and Creation of Sustainable Ecosystems	Media and Policy Center Foundation of California	3249	The proposed project will develop and produce a multi-media PBS program on urban forestry and sustainable communities. This is a national effort which will focus on a number of cities across the nation that are taking major steps toward urban re-vitalization using "greener" policies.	Interpretation	\$100,000	
	Graham Elementary School Watershed Education Trail Phase I	North East Trees	3339	This grant provided for the preparation of conceptual designs, base plan development, preliminary cost estimates and initial meeting with LAUSD, LADPW and SD 1 stakeholders. The related project is RMC 3340 (currently underway) which will improve an existing alley used to access Graham Elementary School by parents and school children. Funded elements include landscaping and interpretative signage as well as an environmental art project to be conducted by the children of Graham Elementary School.	Planning	\$5,000	
No photo	Integrated Regional Water Management Plan	Watershed Conservation Authority	3562	The project involved making preliminary findings regarding project opportunities and related criteria for the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Region	Multiple Category	\$100,000	

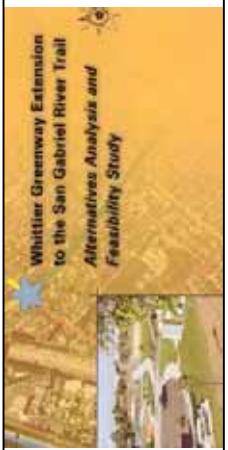
## COMPLETED PROJECTS

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	Lynwood Nature Park	City of Lynwood	3266	The grant paid for Phase 1 Environmental Assessment (soils sampling). This was needed in order to complete the transfer of a 4-acre parcel -- at no cost -- from CalTrans to the city for the creation of Lynwood Nature Park. The project was closed in May 2005. The Soils Report is in the RMC 3237 file as it also pertains to the ongoing South Gate Riparian Habitat Restoration project under that number.	Planning + Development	\$5,000
	Orange County Open Space and Multi-purpose Opportunities	Orange County Division, League of Cities	3253	This grant provided the resources necessary to assess open space, habitat, low impact recreation, watershed improvements and educational uses on a priority basis in the Orange County portion of RMC's territory.	Planning	\$125,000
	Not needed – Project Management	Park Bond Project Management Services	3200	This grant provided for project management services for Proposition 40 capital outlay projects.	Multiple Category	\$360,487

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

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	Ralph C. Dills Project	City of Paramount	3561	For environmental services and demolition activities associated with properties acquired for the purpose of expanding Ralph C. Dills Park.	Development	\$72,435
	Rancho Los Cerritos Landscape Restoration	Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation	3216	Based on the Rancho's Master Plan, landscaping improvements will enhance aesthetics, provide interpretive opportunities and increase security. Perimeter landscaping will also provide a living, visual barrier between site and neighbors. The natural arroyo will be restored to maintain its riparian-like habitat and minimize fire danger; the visual quality will be enhanced with the selective replanting of native trees. Additional features will include a dry creek wash, seating and interpretive booklets or signage interpreting the garden. Funding is being sought to develop drawings and specifications.	Planning	\$55,230
	Rio Hondo Watershed Plan	San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments	3271	The Rio Hondo Watershed Management Plan (RHWMP) provides an organizing framework for community stakeholders working together to develop a healthy watershed within the densely developed urban environment of the San Gabriel Valley. The RHWMP contains an overview of existing conditions within the watershed, discusses how these conditions should shape the selection and design of watershed improvement strategies, and presents recommended projects and other solutions proposed by community stakeholders who developed this watershed plan.	Planning	\$37,455

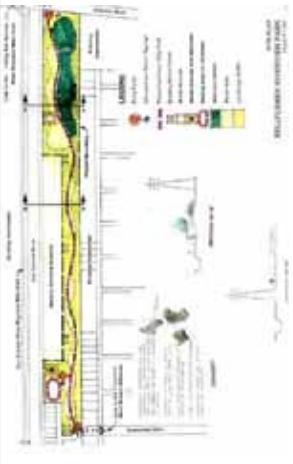
## COMPLETED PROJECTS

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	San Gabriel River Environment al Graphic Design Services Program	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	3236	A complete signage and interpretive graphic plan for the San Gabriel River, with entry signs, mile markers, project signs, wayfinding signs, and interpretive signs.	Planning + Development	\$17,500
	THINK RIVER!	San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservanc y	3218	Think River is the development of an integrated watershed education program to provide educational opportunities for youth in the San Gabriel Valley regarding water quality, water supply and use, habitat. Three parts: 1) High School Student Mentoring Program 2) Teacher Education Workshop 3) Youth Watershed Conference.	Interpretatio n	\$46,440
	Whittier Greenway Extension	City of Whittier	3245	Part of 5.2 mile long combination greenbelt, non-motorized transportation and outdoor recreation facility spanning the city of Whittier and connecting it to surrounding community parks, bicycling paths and leisure facilities	Planning	\$150,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

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	Alhambra Wash Naturalization	Amigos de los Rios	3264	Preparation of an initial feasibility assessment for naturalization of Alhambra Wash. The study will analyze historic conditions and current flows to evaluate the feasibility of recreation and habitat improvements along the segment of the wash between Walnut Grove and the Rio Hondo.	Grantee has distributed the draft report to grantees for review and comment.	Planning	\$40,750
	Anaheim Coves / Burris Pit Park Development	City of Anaheim	3576	The City of Anaheim and the Orange County Water District (OCWD) have entered into a partnership, allowing the City to develop recreational uses at the site of one of the District's ground water recharge basins, known as the Burris Pit. The first phase of work will largely consist of refurbishment of existing landscaping with native vegetation and irrigation, parking for 12 cars, asphalting and fencing the road, fencing to separate public use areas from the water, picnic tables, benches, barbeques, interpretation signage and entry improvements.	The City has completed the lease agreement with the water district. A design team has been selected and the environmental work is ahead of schedule.	Planning + Development	\$841,610
	Arcadia Wash Restoration Feasibility Study	Amigos de los Rios	3268	Assessment of feasibility for removing approximately 2,400 linear feet of concrete lining in the Arcadia Wash, including hydrologic assessment, geomorphologic study, assessment of golf course impacts, and hydraulic design.	Grantee revisions include adding additional information on the Racetrack portion of the project based on the latest proposal of Carrus for the Santa Anita Shops. These edits and additional information will be submitted to stakeholders for comments. Once comments have been received from stakeholders the final draft will be submitted to RMC in June	Planning	\$152,523

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

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	Azusa River Wilderness Park Acquisition	Watershed Conservation Authority	3260	The Azusa River Wilderness Park is a project to create a passive park on the north end of the City of Azusa at the beginning of San Gabriel Canyon. The envisioned park is 89 acres in size with acreage on both sides of the San Gabriel River. There are opportunities to work with a variety of agencies and to connect to several trails that travel into the Angeles Forest as well as the San Gabriel River Bike Path that travels the length of the river and whose terminus is in Seal Beach.	A parcel has been purchased by the City. The purchase of the El Encanto property is complete. Ranger Services are being provided by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority who are patrolling and doing minor upkeep of the park. The minor refurbishments are in the design and permitting process. The WCA currently has a RFP out seeking a company to perform Property Management Services on its properties.	Acquisition	\$2,025,000
	Bellflower Riverview Park	City of Bellflower	3238	This project will create a recreation area fronting the San Gabriel River. The project will provide a natural, riverfront environment serving not just the residents of Bellflower, but numerous communities located up and down river. Proposed improvements include a paved bikeway, landscaping, park benches, lighting, and informational signage. A direct link to the San Gabriel River bikeway will be created, as well as linkage to the City of Bellflower West Branch Bikeway currently in the preliminary engineering phase of development. Funds not used for acquisition were redirected from 3261.	Acquisition of the tax-default parcel completed 12/28/05. City Council approved Negative Declaration for CEQA 12/05. Notice of Determination expected Jan 06. Revised plans in circulation to City Council week of 12/6/05, plans & line item budget to SCE, RMC and Resources agency expected in 12/05, but still pending. Amendment 3 to include redirection of \$200K from RMC 3261, as City has purchased the property. This extension was approved by the RMC Board on 3/20/06.	Planning + Development	\$300,000
	<b>Gateway Cities Council of Governments</b> Bike Trail and Greenway Project	Gateway Cities Council of Governments	3252	This plan will coordinate, prioritize and comprehensively evaluate the regional bikeway needs in the Gateway Cities area. Conceptual plans are underway and negotiations with public agencies related to right of way development components continue.	5/06: To date Steering Committee has reviewed consultant approach and toured project w/in Paramount. Cities are beginning review of possible RMC objectives along the pathway. Field review, review of applicable plans, policies and documents are 50% complete. Aerial survey has been conducted and baseman preparation in progress. Discussions with MTA in progress as to allowable uses of property. Amendment of scope of work and timeline are needed.	Planning	\$250,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

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<b>San Gabriel Valley</b>		Brownfield Study-San Gabriel Valley	San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments	3251	Brownfields in the San Gabriel Valley COG area were identified for possible open space and economic development opportunities. Currently, ranking of the sites for future development as open space uses is underway and the project should be complete in Fall 2006. Approximately \$65,000 funding will be returned to the RMC due to a smaller scope of work than originally anticipated.	Inventory of Brownfield sites is complete but yielded a smaller number of sites than anticipated. Staff is working with the grantee to identify the most beneficial adjustment to the scope of the remaining work. No further work has been completed since the previous report. A grant amendment for classification and extension of performance end date will be processed.	Planning	\$250,000
Project Management		City of Long Beach Project Management Services	City of Long Beach	3593	The Long Beach Project Services Management grant is to the City of Long Beach Real Estate Division for services on acquisition.	5/15/06 redirection of grant is in process	Planning	\$100,000
		Coyote and Carbon Creeks Watershed Management Plan	County of Orange	3246	The project is a multi-use recreational facility consisting of 3.3 miles of trails along Compton Creek connecting nearby parks, nature classrooms, and nature preserves within the watershed. The project includes bike paths, walking, jogging and hiking trails, equestrian trails, a native plant arboretum, nature classrooms, tree planting and security.	A draft report has been prepared and will be reviewed by staff and stakeholders.	Planning	\$100,000
				3213	The project from the County of Orange is to develop a Watershed Plan for the Coyote Creek Watershed to maintain, restore and enhance a healthy 155 square mile watershed. The watershed is a tributary of the San Gabriel River	Two of the technical memos are almost complete. Existing Conditions & Opportunities and Constraints. The series of existing conditions maps is nearly complete. Participation in the bi-monthly workshops has been strong 30-40 City, nonprofit & agency representatives. The project is on track to be completed in January 07.	Planning	\$100,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

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	Coyote Creek Bike Trail Connection to Cerritos Regional Park	City of Cerritos	3584	This project will improve the access to the Coyote Creek Trail at Cerritos include an improved gateway at Shoemaker Street, a pedestrian ramp for ADA access, and trail identification signage. There would be new fencing from the improved gateway on Shoemaker to the City's maintenance building.	RMC staff has been working successfully with the City of Cerritos in defining the gateway/ access area to Coyote Creek. The City has hired Purkiss Rose to design the project and they have begun the design process.	Planning + Development	\$250,000
	Coyote Creek Regional Trail System Improvements	Trails 4 All	3580	There are four components to the Coyote Creek Regional Trail System Improvements. Part 1., Trail Signage Needs Assessment; assess the existing signage locations and conditions, as well as signage needs. Part 2, Connection and Use Assessment; investigate the creek segments within the Coyote Creek system to determine the location and extent of trails currently existing along the Creek and its tributaries. Part 3, Trail Signage Design, Production and Installation; based on RMC approved signage design components for the San Gabriel River, design, produce, and install a combination of way-finding, education, and regulatory signage along Coyote Creek and its tributaries. Part 4, Rest Area/Pocket Park Multipurpose Demonstration; utilizing the assessments, select a location appropriate for a pocket park along the Coyote Creek and create a multipurpose rest area at that site.	The Trails 4 All organization has been doing watershed clean-ups and trail work throughout the County of Orange. The grantee is beginning the scoping work which includes trail connections, trail conditions and constraints. There have been three planning committee meetings with representation from many of the cities, agencies, business and organizations along Coyote Creek. There have been three field trips to do a ground truthing assessment of the trail. The mapping is proceeding and is at about 70%.	Planning + Development	\$250,000
No Photo	Coyote Creek-Los Alamitos Improvement Project	City of Los Alamitos	3318	The project will transform unused easements of the Orange County Flood Control and Southern California Edison adjacent to the Coyote Creek into a park. This project will also add to other improvements along Coyote Creek with the ultimate goal of greening this tributary of the San Gabriel River.	The City has been working with the RMC staff and SCE staff. Negotiations produced a short term lease. The parties are working together to go forward to the PUC to negotiate a long term lease. The City has hired Withers and Sanger to develop the design of the park, concept designs completed and being reviewed.	Planning + Development	\$1,440,000

**ACTIVE PROJECTS**

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	Dominguez Gap Wetlands Restoration Multi-use Project	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	3232	The Dominguez Gap Wetlands Multiuse project proposes to modify two existing retention basins located on each side of the Los Angeles River to create 12 acres of functional wetland and riparian habitat, improve water quality and recharge, create passive recreational facilities, including trails, shade structures, and interpretive signage, along with providing educational features, and improve aesthetic values. Furthermore, this project provides direct access to the 51-mile Los Angeles River Parkway. Funding for construction is not recommended at this stage since the project is still in the planning phase. In fact, the Deforest Park project and this project may be combined to make more efficient use of funds that may be provided by the Coastal Conservancy.	Plans are complete and work has begun on design of interpretive signage for the Project. Bids are expected to be received on May 23, 2003. Notice to proceed will be issued on June 13, 2006.	Planning + Development	\$200,000
No photo	Dominguez Gap/De Forest Park Restoration	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	3583	This project provides for several options: 1- Extend wetlands in the northern .5-mile of the basin and restore marsh and low riparian habitat. Construct small interpretive center, improve walkways, and add interpretive signage. Selectively remove exotic trees and shrubs and replace with high riparian woodland trees. Restore southern .75-mile as native scrub and riparian habitats. CH2M hill feasibility study completed June 2002. (\$2.2 million); 2: Option 1 with enhanced water supply from the LA River (\$6.3 million); 3: Revise grading of site to flow from north to south for the entire length of the basin for wetlands and diverse habitats. Enhance water supply from LA River or CalTrans 105 Source.	This project is still pending an agreement between Los Angeles County Flood control District, and the City of Long Beach. 30% plans for deforest are being reviewed.	Planning	\$100,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

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	Duck Farm Geotechnical Studies	Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority	3273	The grant provides for geotechnical sampling on the Woodland Duck Farm property and independent analysis of the sampling results. The primary deliverable, a geotechnical report on the porosity of the underground strata will determine the feasibility of groundwater recharge at the site..	The final results of testing have been reviewed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. The report indicates that the area tested is not suitable for groundwater recharge. This will be subject to discussion at an upcoming meeting for the Duck Farm planning process.	Planning	\$146,756
	Duck Farm Planning	Watershed Conservation Authority	3243	The purpose of this project is to create a Master Plan for the Woodland Duck Farm property. The products of the Phase 1 planning will be community outreach and visioning, data gathering and analysis, feasibility studies for access, circulation, watershed improvement projects etc., identification of feasibility analysis needs, commencement of an Interim Public Use Plan, and recommendation for funding strategies and opportunities. The plan will incorporate a finding under CEQA.	The first phase of the planning is almost complete. Input from stakeholders has been gathered and is currently being analyzed for use in the development of design alternatives. The consultant is planning some remaining stakeholder meetings. The development of alternatives is set to begin in the coming weeks and will be presented to the stakeholders for review and comment in June or July, 2006.	Planning	\$330,000
	Duck Farm Traffic Studies	Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority	3274	The grant provides for CEQA documentation; a traffic study on the Woodland Duck Farm property and for professional services related to the project. The CEQA documentation is required under state law for the project. The traffic study will assist in determining the limitations on public access and establish threshold for limited access by RMC and WCA staff. The grant also funds legal services associated with review of easements on the property.	This grant has been redirected to planning and/or improvements for the project.	Planning	\$45,331

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	East Los Angeles Civic Center Improvements	County of Los Angeles	3259	Assist in creating a sustainable, educational water feature connecting the plaza through open space	The Board of Supervisors has approved the budget for this project. Final design of the fountain is pending approvals by the Health Dept. and other permitting agencies.	Planning + Development \$500,000
	Edens Lost and Found: Emerald Necklace	Media and Policy Center Foundation of California	3587	To produce a film on the Emerald Necklace that will be a portion of the PBS series Edens Lost and Found. Also provide a curriculum that will be developed closely with Amigos de los Rios to utilize with their community outreach, with the local schools and park programs as a companion to the film. Both of these products will utilize and enhance the interpretive themes and goals of the revitalized parks of the Emerald Necklace, emphasizing sustainable practices and choices.	The filming is complete. The first two segments of the PBS series, "The Rebirth of its Cities and Visionary Leaders", will be shown on May 18th & May 25th. The Chicago episode followed by the Philadelphia episode with the LA episode to air sometime in the fall.	Interpretation \$74,500

**ACTIVE PROJECTS**

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	El Dorado Nature Center Renewal	City of Long Beach	3263	A master plan has just been completed calling for the restoration of the El Dorado Park. The project is to refurbish the site as a demonstration riparian, riparian woodland, riverine, oak woodland, and coastal sage scrub habitats through selected removal of exotic plants, thinning of heavily wooded areas, and planting of natives. The life cycle of current plants are nearing an end. Native insects and animals are scarce due to lack of food and shelter. The lakes are eutrophying, as they are a closed system.	The grantee has executed its grant agreement and chosen a consultant from the RFP process. The work will be done in conjunction with a stream restoration and slated to be completed by June 2007.	Planning + Development	\$327,000
	El Dorado Regional Park Wetlands Feasibility Study	City of Long Beach	3208	The City of Long Beach will study the feasibility of bringing the urban run-off flow of the San Gabriel River through El Dorado Regional Park, Nature Center, and proposed Wetlands to make the park's lake and stream systems part of the San Gabriel River System in a 2.3-mile long riparian habitat. The partially developed northwest corner of the Regional Park would be developed as wetland to help remove pollutants, and natural riparian habitat would be restored along the stream. Picnics and events would be scaled back to prevent undue disturbance,	The initial feasibility study is complete and the City staff has reviewed and commented on the draft. The final report is completed and the final minor edits are being completed prior to the printing of the final report and presentation to the RMC.	Planning	\$100,000
	Ferguson and Wildwood Pre-Acquisition Expenses	City of Glendora	3566	The Ferguson and Wildwood properties are two large, diverse open spaces in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. This grant will pay for the appraisals and appraisal reviews enabling the City of Glendora and the City of San Dimas to seek funding for acquisition.	The appraisals of Ferguson and Wildwood Canyons are complete. The state review of the appraisals for Wildwood and Ferguson are complete and supported. The work for this grant is now completed, with the request for payment and a final report the final tasks to be completed.	Acquisition	\$50,000

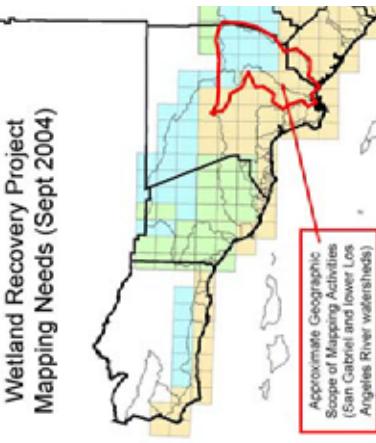
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	Galster Park Project	City of West Covina	3229	Amendment of 5/16/05 changed scope of work. Funds previously earmarked for improvements to the hill top Boys Camp (\$150,000) to be relocated to the family camp, making it a fully functional ADA accessible campground. The trails, restrooms, and signage will be upgraded. Landscaping will also be enhanced with native plants. Plans are 100% and bidding to select a contractor is underway.	April 2006, construction is underway	Planning + Development	\$476,000
	Gibson Park Habitat Plantings	City of El Monte and Amigos de los Rios	3337	Part of the Emerald Necklace, Gibson Park grant from the RMC will fund native landscaping, an outdoor interpretive kiosk and an outdoor classroom where visitors and school children can learn about the natural history and resources of this area of the watershed.	Amigos continues with to work on development of construction drawings for the Park.	Planning + Development	\$433,500
	Gordon-Mull	City of Glendora	3223	Gordon-Mull is a 42 acre acquisition which provides for the protection and enhancement of two blue-line streams and connected wetlands, sensitive plant communities. A hiking trail is proposed, a small house will be refurbished as a nature center and a habitat/restoration plan would be prepared and implemented with Glendora Community Conservancy.	The appraisal and the state review of the appraisal are complete. The plans for the alternative waterline have been reviewed by the City and RMC staff. The City Dept. of Public Works is working with the owner's engineer to design the waterline and easements for the waterline realignment.	Acquisition	\$2,500,000

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	Graham Elementary School Watershed Education Trail Phase II	North East Trees	3340	This grant will fund improvements to an existing alley used to access Graham Elementary by parents and school children. Funded elements include landscaping and interpretative signage as well as an environmental art project to be conducted by the children of Graham elementary.	No further progress has been reported for this period.	Planning + Development	\$50,920
	Green Visions-Habitat, Trail and Recreational Access Plan	Watershed Conservation Authority	3240	The product of this grant is a framework for the Green Visions Plan. The deliverables included a plan inventory, online plan library and map, data scan and analytical framework and workshop.	Grantee has completed Phase I and received an extension on the Bridge Funding I Phase. They have released the both a Target Species Report and Recreational Assessment planning reports. Work on the development of GIS and related tools is on-going.	Multiple Category	\$500,000
	Green Visions Phase II	Watershed Conservation Authority	3568	This Phase II project is to implement the major tasks identified in the Phase I framework, to identify and assess opportunities for habitat conservation and restoration, open space acquisition and recreational facilities development, and watershed protection efforts. The GIS planning tool and data sets will also be created. To retain its utility, the data infrastructure associated with this tool will need to be managed. This phase of the project will span at least two years, with a start date of January 1, 2005.	This grant provides funding for Phase II of Green Visions which will include the development and release of specific GIS tools related to target species, park and open space data, hydrological modeling information, and other essential planning tools.	Multiple Category	\$500,000
	Habitat Authority Community Outreach & Education	California Native Habitat Endowment Fund	3233	Development of a docent program and manual to be used by the Puente Hill Landfill Native Habitat Authority Docent Program for the Puente Hills Region.	With the near completion of the Habitat Authority's Resource Management Plan and the addition of an interpreter to the Habitat Authority's staff the Habitat Fund and the Habitat Authority believe that redirecting this grant to the Habitat Authority is the most efficient and cost effective way to get the work completed. Both organizations will work closely together to complete this work in early fall of 2006.	Interpretation	\$46,000

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<b>Wetland Recovery Project Mapping Needs (Sept 2004)</b> 	Historical Ecology of the RMC Territory	Southern California Coastal Water Research Project	3556	This project will: 1) Define and prioritize historical research questions to meet restoration and management information needs; 2) Develop historical data archive and database; 3) Develop initial land use history map and timeline; 4) Digitize and georectify key historical data sets; and 5) Assess the relative value of different historical data sources to answer pressing environmental management questions.	Under the guidance of the RMC Habitat and Science Panel, SCCWRP has a revised work plan that will ensure project completion of 12/06. The project team members are from SCCWRP, USC/Green Visions Project, CSUN, Dept of Geography, SFEI, and LASGRWC. The project team has compiled extensive maps on the topography, land use, soils, and geology of the watershed. These data have been logged in the database, and scanned and digitized. Preliminary analysis of these historic resources has allowed the project team to identify several key time-periods for construction of the project timeline and to help focus subsequent data collection efforts. The project team met with the Stakeholder Group on May 3, 2006 to present the project findings to date, and to solicit input from the ultimate end users of the products. Data compilation and interpretation will continue over the next quarter.	Planning	\$148,000
	Invasive Weed Control in Riparian Habitat of San Gabriel Valley	Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council	3359	Undesirable invasive non-native plants will be selectively controlled by targeted herbicide applications, requiring minimal cutting and biomass reduction, performed by Riparian Repairs, a licensed pest control business, as subcontractor to the Watershed Council, extending and expanding previous habitat restoration work initiated during the year 2000 to: Rio Hondo Riparian Corridor, San Gabriel River channel at Whittier Narrows, Whittier Narrows Nature Center, Santa Fe Dam Basin and San Gabriel River channel in Azusa, and Eaton Canyon Nature Center.	Inspection and reapplication of herbicide is ongoing.	Planning + Development	\$36,000

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	La Mirada Creek Restoration Planning	City of La Mirada	3225	The project would plan for 1): The removal of numerous sick and dying trees, replanting of native species, leveling of turf along trail at Oak Creek Park, revegetation of additional areas, rebuild of amphitheater at Creek Park, and interpretive signage regarding the wildlife and native vegetation in the area. 2) :Replacement of two bridges damaged by previous storms, repair horse trail paths and plant native vegetation along the sides, reslope the path to the public restroom facilities (ADA), and install three stormceptor devices along La Mirada Creek to keep pollutants for entering the stream.	An agreement between Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and the City of La Mirada to conduct the planning is pending. Planning will proceed once the agreement is signed.	Planning	\$150,000
	La Verne Open Space ANF Connection (Project 1)	La Verne Land Conservancy	3367	The La Verne Open Space project is an enhancement of open space that was purchased by the City of La Verne and will be operated by the La Verne Land Conservancy. There will be trailhead signage, improvements and interpretation to the local students and community groups.	The Conservancy has engaged a planning and design consultant and is moving forward with the planning of the trails and amenities.	Planning + Development	\$208,000
	Laguna Lake Park Master Plan	City of Fullerton	3222	Laguna Lake Park Plan and refurbishment will renovate park infrastructure. The renovation will include a new parking lot, outdoor classroom, restroom, picnic areas, fishing piers, ADA accessible walks and ramps, realignment and regrading of park trails, addition of retaining walls and new landscaping and irrigation.	The lake has been drained, the build up of silt taken out and new infiltration system is in place. The master plan is complete, with City and RMC staff prioritizing the phases and beginning refurbishment of the trail and landscape in the next quarter.	Planning + Development	\$500,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

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	Lario Creek Enhancement Project	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	3231	This grant will provide planning funds for stream bank stabilization and restoration while increasing the channel's ability to divert water for groundwater replenishment. Stream bank stabilization and restoration will be accomplished using bioengineering techniques, removing invasive vegetation, and revegetating with native plants. Enhancing and restoring the vegetation will also promote ecological diversity, provide additional wildlife habitat, and increase its educational value. The resulting project will contribute significantly to the recreational opportunities for the communities of South El Monte, Pico Rivera, Whittier, and other nearby communities. The site is proposed to be open to the public to enjoy the low impact recreational amenities and educational opportunities.	The planning consultant has developed two concept alternatives for the re alignment of Lario Creek. Review of the two alternatives by Los Angeles County Department of Public Works is still in progress.	Planning	\$125,000
	Lashbrook Park	City of El Monte	3372	The land is owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Lashbrook Park will be developed into a neighborhood park and rest stop for the bike trail on the Rio Hondo River. The existing vacant property will be landscaped with trees and turf, new fencing, security lighting, and picnic benches. A grant was applied for through the LA County Regional Park and Open Space Bond Act. The City is waiting for the results.	Amigos de los Rios has completed several elements of the park construction. The bioswale zone has been completed, the trail construction is complete along with the watering system and some plantings. The park is complete and was opened on January 28th, 2006.	Planning + Development	\$71,000
	Legg Lake Fishing Pier	County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation	3373	This grant will provide restoration of an area of North Legg Lake by implementing a shoreline restoration program which includes ADA parking, an access walkway and ramp, an informational kiosk and native landscaping.	March 2006- the RMC & County have processed a second amendment to the grant. The Dept of Fish & Game is requiring an updated biological survey, which will take up to 8 weeks. The new project end date will be June 30, 2007. 90% construction review plans (NIC landscaping, the biological survey and technical specifications were received by RMC on 3/23/06.	Planning + Development	\$500,000

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	Lemon Creek	City of Walnut	3374	There are flood improvements and clearance of the creek area that need to be completed, past flood control measures have uprooted concrete preventing the natural flow of the creek.	Final plans are now complete and the grantee is preparing to invite bids for the park improvements.	Planning + Development	\$225,000
	Long Beach Aquarium Watershed Exhibit Expansion Project	Aquarium of the Pacific	3570	This grant facilitates the completion of the "Long Beach Aquarium Expansion Project - RMC 3257" for design and planning. The project includes construction and installation of a LEED certified classroom, native landscaping, a public exhibit at Pier Point Landing and a watershed exhibit consisting of watershed tables and interactive interpretive displays. The "green" classroom, which will be certified at LEED Platinum level. Selection of a contractor is underway, with groundbreaking planned for August 2006.	March 2005: Project is stalled pending resolution of land tenure with the Federal Government. The Aquarium has ongoing fundraising and grant applications for further funding due to construction cost increases. The Aquarium has joined the City of Long Beach's Green Building Team to help implement green building policies. The permit process and land swap with the City of Long Beach is moving forward. The exhibit planning is moving forward in the next quarter with a stakeholders meeting, utilizing the new exhibit designer on the Aquarium's staff. Contractor proposals are under review Spring 2006.	Planning + Development	\$1,322,000
	Long Canyon, Santa Clara River	Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority	3559	A grant for the Long Canyon, Santa Clara River acquisition project to include the following parcels: 3210-005-005, 3210-005-011, 3210-005-012, 3210-005-013, 3210-005-014, 3210-005-015, 3210-005-017, 3210-005-018, 3210-005-022, 3210-005-023, 3210-005-024, 3210-005-025, 3210-006-001, 3210-006-004, 3210-006-005, 3210-006-006, 3210-006-007, and 3210-008-022.	MRCRA has completed the acquisition of the property and will manage the property for conservation purposes.	Acquisition	\$100,000

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	Los Angeles River Bikeway Path Enhancement and Rehabilitation	City of Bell	3380	Enhancement and rehabilitation of the bikeway path to include removal of dilapidated chain link /barbed wire fence, installation of native California vegetation, drip irrigation, decorative wrought iron fencing and river rock. The City has contracted LA DPW Watershed Department to conduct all work. 100% plans have been generated and the project is expected to be complete by late 2006. Funds from LA Watershed and Resources Agency are also being used to develop adjoining sections of the bike trail with the same design components, running through Bell and into City of Cudahy.	The project is in conjunction with a Resources Agency Grant and City funds. Kick off for the construction was held at the April Earth Day event for the Los Angeles River. The City of Bell will be improving the path from Gage to Foster Street along the River. The RMC funds provide native plantings, irrigation and river rock hardscape between Gage and Florence. Plans were provided to RMC for review on 2/1/06. RMC has revised timeline, but end date, scope of work and budget remain same, so no amendment necessary.	Planning + Development	\$200,000
	Lynwood Meadows	City of Lynwood	3226	Lynwood Meadows project will rehabilitate a vacant city-owned property as a park. The project is located in a densely populated community. The majority of the park is proposed to be open space, with a shaded picnic area, a tot lot and basketball courts. Alternate funding has been identified for non-passive components. The City will utilize native vegetation and open space components in compliance with RMC requirements.	The grantee is in the process of completing the design plans. A comprehensive Workplan is in place for the development of the park.. A time extension has been processed for this project.	Planning + Development	\$562,379
	Maywood Bikeway Access	North East Trees	3394	Funding will provide for an enhanced and naturalized bikeway access with native planting, permeable surface, bench seating, and other amenities on the north side of Slauson Avenue at the LA River. The project is identified in the Los Angeles River Bikeway and Greenway Planning Study.	Development and review of concepts for this project is ongoing. NET is working with the City of Maywood to coordinate the Bikeway improvements with street improvements by the City.	Planning + Development	\$208,254

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No photo	Maywood Riverfront Park	City of Maywood	3395	The project has taken abandoned industrial and Superfund sites and converted them into a riverfront park with connections to the LA River Bike Trail. RMC board approved \$250K to complete construction	Grant agreement has been executed and work has begun on the project. Expected completion date is June 30, 2006.	Planning + Development	\$250,000
	Mines Avenue Bike Lane Improvement Project	City of Pico Rivera	3269	Bike lane enhancements including resurfacing of the bike lanes, curb and gutter reconstruction, striping and signage.	The final design plans were reviewed by the RMC and are being submitted to the City Council for approval. The construction documents will be generated next. Work is expected to be completed within the contracted timeframe.	Planning + Development	\$280,118
	Monrovia Hillside Wilderness Preserve	City of Monrovia	3204	The City of Monrovia has a Wilderness Preserve of over 800 acres that it is actively expanding, this project is for acquisition of more acreage for the preserve. Identified property for Hillside Wilderness Preserve Management Plan of the City of Monrovia. Properties have been identified based on location and connection value for incorporation into the Monrovia Canyon Park, which is presently 803 acres of hillside land.	The City of Monrovia has received a report from DGS supporting the appraisal and is moving forward in adding the 10 acre parcel to the preserve. This acquisition will leave the City funds to purchase more acreage in the Preserve.	Acquisition	\$810,000

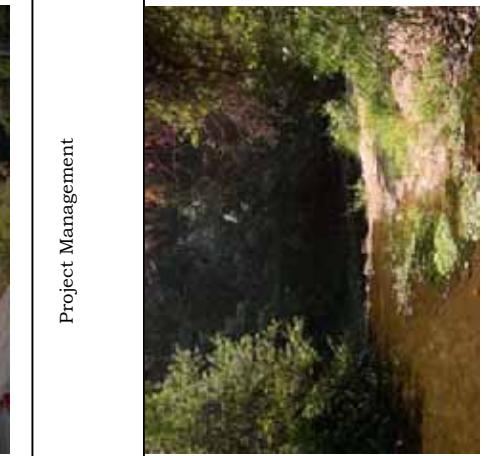
## ACTIVE PROJECTS

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	NASA Park	City of Downey	3419	The site is a former parking lot for the Boeing Company, Rockwell and other defense contractors at the former NASA site. The project includes trailhead and trailside facilities: restrooms, shade structure for educational purposes, benches, trashcans, drinking fountains and bike racks. The trail to be used by walkers and joggers will be enhanced with trees providing a canopy for shade, the creek like swale system and natural vegetation. The interpretive signage will provide information on the process being used to clean the storm water. The City plans to develop a combination low-impact/high impact recreation area with ball fields and a walking trail.	Landscape architect was selected in June, 2005, and conceptual design approved at that time. Grantee has requested a meeting for mid May 2006, as many changes have occurred in the scope. Staff will meet with them to resolve. City still anticipates taking project to bid in June/July 2006	Planning + Development	\$250,000
	Native Landscape Workshop	Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	3585	To develop and run a workshop for landscape architects, park planners, park maintenance, and others interested in native landscape.	The workshop was attended to full capacity with very positive feedback from attendees. Feedback surveys indicate high satisfaction and increased understanding of the principles and strategies for designing native landscapes. Rancho Santa Ana is proposing two additional workshops in September, 2006.	Multiple Category	\$5,212
	Native Plant Garden Trail Restoration	Friends of the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge	3571	Define and improve the trail in order to provide for easier access for handicapped visitors and the general public; achieve a more professional appearance, and provide for ease of future maintenance.	The grant agreement has been executed, the plans are complete. The Friends have asked to be released from their grant due to a timing issue. Staff is working with the Friends to ensure them that there is enough time to complete the work by Dec 2006.	Planning + Development	\$25,000

**ACTIVE PROJECTS**

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	Native Plant Palettes for the San Gabriel River	Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	3422	This grant provides funding for development of a list of native plants that can be used as suitable vegetation palettes for establishment of native plants in the San Gabriel River Watershed.	The grantee has begun work on the project and is in the process of obtaining permits to collect samples of vegetation in the San Gabriel River Watershed. Work continues on the project.	Planning + Development	\$52,788
No photo	Oak Canyon Nature Center	City of Anaheim	3425	The project proposes improvements to the interpretive trail and nature center entryway and outdoor amphitheatre. The nature center is a 58-acre natural park with a year-round stream, Walnut Creek, three adjoining canyons, and over four miles of hiking trails that traverse oak woodlands and coastal sage scrub.	The grantee has completed the installation and will be submitting payment request and final reports.	Planning + Development	\$6,050
	Olinda Historic Trail	City of Brea	3207	The City of Brea's Project is to build a trail from the original oil wells in Brea. It will improve public access to open space, facilitate the growth of native plants and adapt existing oil company access roads for trail use.	The City has a contractor on board and is nearing completion of construction of the trail and its interpretive elements.	Planning + Development	\$98,050
	Olinda Historic Trail Phase II	City of Brea	3426	Olinda Historic Trail Phase II is a project that will provide for the extension of the trail which was originally funded by RMC.	The City of Brea has completed the design and has a contractor in place. The early stages of trail construction are underway.	Planning + Development	\$45,000

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	Organic Community Farm	EarthWorks Enterprises	3592	This grant is to fund several projects at the EarthWorks Community Organic Farm, located in South El Monte. A native plant revegetation meadow, a native plant demonstration garden, living visual screens, and development of related educational programs and materials are all proposed.	The grant contract was signed in April and work is beginning.	Planning + Development	\$83,260
	Pacific Communities Project	City of Duarte	3429	This is an acquisition project in the City of Duarte of 329 acres of undeveloped hillside property. The funds are for the acquisition of the property with the City planning and developing the access and education about their new Hillside Preserve.	Acquisition was December of 2005.	complete in	Acquisition
	Park Bond Project Management Services II (Capital Projects)	Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority	3270	This grant was used for year two project management services.	Services under this grant have been completed. Services provided under this grant included project management for RMC workprogram grants.	Multiple Category	\$589,139
	Park Master Plan-Baldwin Park	City of Baldwin Park	3242	Development of a Master Plan to identify opportunities for increasing open space, including a plan for increasing the use of Walnut Creek Nature Park and creating access to Walnut Creek, a tributary of the San Gabriel River. MG is the new planning consultant. The project is moving forward in the planning process, city and community outreach meetings are being held.	May 2006, City of Baldwin Park is working to clarify the scope of work to include RMC Objectives. A grant amendment and extension are pending	Planning	\$50,000

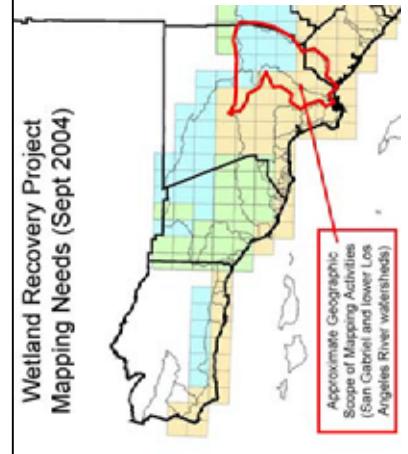
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	Peck Water Conservation Park	Friends of the Angeles Chapter Foundation	3214	Survey the Rio Hondo from Alhambra Wash to Peck Road Water Conservation Park to evaluate potential open space acquisitions, trail access improvements, identify habitat restoration projects, recreation potential, alternative transportation value, and interpretive value. A Master plan will be developed for entranceway improvements, habitat restoration, native garden, irrigation and other park amenities.	Grantee presented final recommendations to RMC staff in March, 2005; however, due to the personal leave of the EON the final report has not been submitted. RMC Project Manager received the final payment request and closing documents from the grantee, but is waiting on the preparation of a Master Plan package and implementable projects from Amigos de los Rios.	Planning	\$25,000
	Pio Pico State Historic Park	Friends of Pio Pico	3235	Production of native plant and habitat educational materials that will inform visitors of the existing California native gardens at the Pio Pico State Historic Park. The California Department of Parks and Recreation is currently transplanting non-native vegetation and replacing it with native plant species, in preparation for the re-opening of Pio Pico State Park, following three years of renovations. A brochure will serve as a self-guided tour through the native plant species and new interpretive signs will be placed throughout the native gardens. The brochure will feature historical information, native garden and habitat education.	This grant is funding the production of native plant and habitat educational materials that will inform visitors of the existing California native gardens at the Pio Pico State Historic Park. The final draft has been completed but not reviewed yet by RMC.	Interpretation	\$5,000
	Puente Creek Nature Education Center	City of La Puente	3224	The City of La Puente proposes acquisition of a vacant parcel along Puente Creek on which the Nature Center would be located. Situated between an existing school and the channelized creek, the sheltered education center will provide the local community as well as the students of the surrounding school districts the opportunity to gain knowledge of environmental issues that face our communities. The proposed facility will be an area which schools and other community organizations will be able to access for practical learning opportunities and passive recreation.	Grantee submitted request to extend the performance period to December 31, 2006. The project is being designed in separate implementation phases due to increased cost. Phase I will be brought before the RMC Board in May.	Acquisition + Planning + Development	\$400,000

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	Ralph C. Dills Park Expansion	City of Paramount	3241	This is a grant to be used for the open space and passive use master planning process related to acreage acquired using Proposition A and 1.3 funds. These parcels are near the existing LA River park in Paramount. A grant amendment is pending for the project to move forward into the planning process.	During first quarter 2006, RMC staff met with Paramount to restart Master planning process regarding all parcels purchased with State funds. The City has prepared a request for qualifications in early May which will be released in Mid/late May.	Planning	\$200,000
	Rancho Los Alamitos Native Garden Restoration	Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation	3234	The project includes planting of natives, the construction of pathways, interpretive signage, and professional services related to design and planning for the native plantings and improved grading. Additional work will include restoration of a re-circulating water feature in the garden.	No further progress has been reported for this project	Planning + Development	\$63,546
	Rio Hondo - Roosevelt Avenue River Trail Entry	City of Montebello	3458	The City of Montebello's Roosevelt Avenue trailhead is the enhancement of a basic trailhead on the Rio Hondo bike path. This project will dovetail with a project that the City is working on with the Resources Agency to enhance the amenities along the Rio Hondo in Montebello.	The City has design plans that are complete. The RMC staff has reviewed and commented on them. The City is in the process of the licensing with the County Flood Control District which looks to be complete. Construction will begin in the next quarter.	Planning + Development	\$200,000

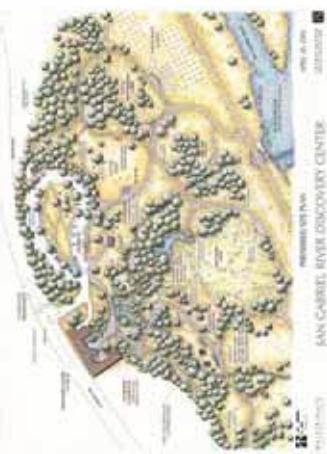
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	Rio Vista Nature Trail	City of El Monte and Amigos de los Rios	3465	This is the second phase following the Rio Vista Park rehabilitation. Funding would provide for landscaping and trail improvements to the Rio Hondo right of way from Rio Vista Park to Valley Boulevard connecting the park and the river trail. The improvements will include an entrance gate, native plants, benches and interpretive signage showcasing social and natural history.	The City of El Monte has approved a contract with Amigo de los Rios. Final design has been approved by the City Parks Commission and will be considered by City Council in June 2006.	Planning + Development	\$567,000
	Rio Vista Park Restoration and Conservation Project	City of El Monte	3221	The Rio Vista Park Restoration is a project that provides the restoration and rehabilitation of Rio Vista Park complete with interpretive displays, historical depictions of the Rio Hondo. Newly constructed bicycle trails and pedestrian walkways formed with native vegetation and historical growth will line the park and the Rio Hondo River and provide pedestrian connection points between major corridor of the City.	Demolition of the restoration areas is underway. The project has been supplemented with two grants from other agencies. Construction will begin in the next quarter with completion by Spring of 2007.	Planning + Development	\$375,200
	Wetland Recovery Project Mapping Needs (Sept 2004)	Southern California Coastal Water Research Project	3557	The purpose of this project is to generate comprehensive up-to-date digital maps of: 1) wetland habitats (including estuaries, streams, lake wetlands, depressional wetlands and vernal pools), 2) riparian vegetation community composition, 3) riparian geomorphic boundary and 4) flood control infrastructure for the RMC Territory.	SCCWWRP staff has issued a subcontract with CSUN and work has commenced collecting the digital imagery to begin mapping. In addition, CSUN staff was trained by SFEI in techniques of riparian mapping.	Planning	\$104,000

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	Rivers and Tributary Access Improvements	Watershed Conservation Authority	3248	The WCA has identified trail access and signage improvements as a critical need for the river corridors in our territory. While there is a tremendous need to add new open space and river parkway improvements, many of our existing parks and bikeway access points are unknown to the community because there is either inadequate or a total lack of signs for these sites.	This grant has seven sub-grants that are for improvements and signage along the San Gabriel River. Signage at Thienes Avenue, the Gateway to the Los Angeles River in Long Beach at Golden Shore, signage of the Lower Los Angeles River, access improvements at Arrow Highway in Irwindale, the Compton Creek Trail Project on the Los Angeles River, and signage of the San Gabriel River.	Planning + Development	\$500,000
	<b>Grant Program Guide</b>	RMC Grant Guidelines	3272	Services provided under this grant included development of grant guidelines and a workshop for successful grantees to provide assistance in selecting design and construction contractors.	The grant guidelines have been completed and updated. The consultant completed the workshops and provided all relevant materials. Final close of out grant shall be completed within the next 60 days.	Multiple Category	\$148,422

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	San Gabriel River Discovery Center	3477	San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority	<p>The San Gabriel River Discovery Center (SGRDC) at the Whittier Narrows Nature Center (WNNC) includes planning and construction of a green/sustainable building (LEED Platinum level) which will serve multiple critical uses for the area. These users include continued and expanded programs now in place at WNNC regarding the culture and natural area, serve as an introductory gateway to other resources in the watershed area, provide watershed awareness and conservation education, and also serve as a much needed meeting space for groups in the area. The site master planning includes restoration of the natural area for habitat, while providing outdoor educational experiences for all ages. Important trail nodal connections to trails in the Emerald Necklace are planned. A JPA consisting of LA County, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Central Basin Water District and the RMC was formed in January 2006. The environmental review and fundraising processes will begin in Spring 2006, following completion of the site master plan.</p>	Phase 1 planning is expected to be completed by June, 2006. Environmental process and fundraising will begin thereafter.	Planning + Development	\$3,000,000
	San Gabriel River Spreading Grounds	3228	City of Pico Rivera	<p>Development of a bike path/walking trail at the Spreading Grounds, landscaping, irrigation lines, the development of a rest area, lighting, interpretive signage and improved public entrances.</p>	This project is being administered by LA County DPW. Work began in January (on the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Spreading Grounds simultaneously) and is expected to be complete by September.	Planning + Development	\$479,882
	San Gabriel River Trail Connector to Pio Pico State Historic Park	3567	City of Whittier	<p>Funds will allow for the development of construction drawings and final and complete construction of a new bike trail connecting the newly refurbished Pio Pico State Historic Park to the existing class one San Gabriel River Bikeway.</p>	Grant funds will allow for the development of construction drawings and final and complete construction of a new bike trail connecting the newly refurbished Pio Pico State Historic Park to the existing class one San Gabriel River Bikeway.	Planning + Development	\$450,000

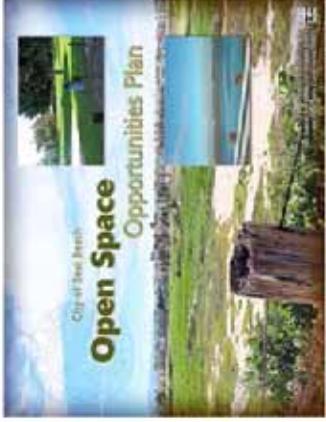
**ACTIVE PROJECTS**

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status Report</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
No photo	San Gabriel River Trail Enhancement	City of Seal Beach	3239	The San Gabriel River Trail Enhancement project will create a plan and construction drawings to restore the existing San Gabriel River Trail and the trailside facilities from the Marina Dr. to Pacific Coast Highway and upgrade the site to feature new amenities.	The City of Seal Beach has concept plans as well as construction documents that are at 90%. The City is working with the various permitting agencies to receive the necessary permits. The City's application for Prop 50 funds has moved to the next round.	Planning	\$150,000
No photo	San Gabriel River Trail Enhancement Development Project	City of Seal Beach	3573	The project will restore the existing San Gabriel River Trail and the trailside facilities from the First Street parking lot to Marina Drive and upgrade the site to feature new amenities. The restoration will include interpretive, way-finding and regulatory signage.	The City recently received 90% plans for the Staging area at the end of the San Gabriel River. The City is moving through the permitting process with the Coastal Commission and is on track to begin construction in the Summer of 2006.	Planning + Development	\$500,000
	San Gabriel River Walk	City of Long Beach	3481	The San Gabriel River Walk is a project that takes an unused open space next to the western levee of the San Gabriel River and develops it into a passive park with pathways, and native landscaping.	The City Staff has utilized input obtained at a community meeting and did further research on alternative southerly access points. There will be another public meeting in this quarter to present these additional access alternatives and to select a preferred southerly access point to the trail.	Planning + Development	\$622,600
	San Gabriel River Watershed Restoration Assessment Project	San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy	3247	The San Gabriel River Watershed Habitat Restoration Assessment project is the report about the assessment of the creatures residing in the Upper San Gabriel River, Walnut Creek and San Jose Creek sub watersheds.	The final report is complete and is currently being reviewed by staff. Review of the report will be on the agenda for the next RMC Science Panels meeting and the final version will be posted to the website.	Planning	\$86,895
	San Jose Creek Bike Trail Planning	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	3230	Construction of 0.7 miles of a Class I bicycle trail with enhancements to landscape and hardscape. The project includes two bridges, one over San Jose Creek and another over the San Gabriel River. This project is part of a larger regional park plan to link cities as far east as Claremont to downtown Los Angeles.	An extension was approved, extending the performance period to July 31, 2006. The preliminary plans are currently being developed.	Planning + Development	\$200,000

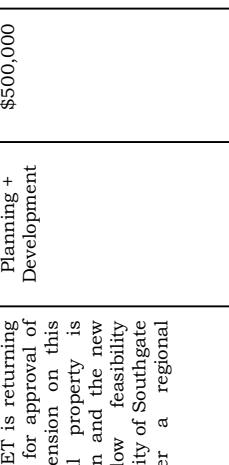
## ACTIVE PROJECTS

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status Report</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
	San Jose Creek Greenway Improvements, Phase II	North East Trees	3215	Provide additional habitat benefits to current Greenway Project under design and due for completion. Additional plantings, interpretive signage, and volunteer events.	The Grantee has completed the planting and community outreach phases of the project and the signage is being produced. The project was completed at the end of December, 2005. The RMC project manager is working with NET to complete the closing documents and final payment request.	Planning + Development	\$48,975
	Santa Fe Springs Park Master Plan & Nature Sanctuary Feasibility Study	City of Santa Fe Springs	3210	This project will create a master plan for Santa Fe Springs Park and perform a feasibility study of the potential for creating a Nature Sanctuary on the 13 acre site adjacent and north of the Park, in between the 605 freeway and the San Gabriel River. The Master Plan will identify the needed improvements for Santa Fe Springs Park based on community needs and examine the possibility of opening up the park to greater exposure to the nearby river. The feasibility study will assess the feasibility of developing the 13-acre site as a Nature Sanctuary. In so doing, the study will contemplate the introduction and proliferation of native vegetation on the site, as well as consider the potential for interaction with the existing pedestrian/bike trail adjacent to the river.	The grant was amended to extend performance period to June 30, 2006. The City is finalizing the plan/study, including mitigation requirements, and will be bringing the project to the RMC Board in May to request funding for implementation.	Planning	\$100,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

Photos	Project Name	Applicant	RMC No.	Project Description	Status Report	Project Type	Funding
	Seal Beach Open Space Opportunities	City of Seal Beach	3244	This City of Seal Beach project is a small planning grant to investigate potential open space opportunities within the city. Various opportunities for partnership, and acquisition may already exist and the city wishes to develop a cohesive approach to maximize its efforts. Additionally, there are several small, fragmented efforts to restore parks and open space areas within the city, and this grant will allow for a master plan approach to future projects. The RMC funding funds a thorough investigation of open space opportunities, interested partners, property owner information, and significance to regional trails, recreational opportunities, as well as habitat value.	The City of Seal Beach has received the final report produced by RBF after their extensive survey of the City. The final report has been received, final payment requests are in process.	Planning	\$100,000
	Seventh Avenue Trailhead Improvements	Puente Hills Landfill Native Habitat Preservation Authority	3262	The Seventh Avenue Trailhead improvements project involves the development of a trailhead, including interpretive signage, a parking area, ADA access, and vegetation, along with a bioswale.	The Habitat Authority has completed the project that included a trailhead, interpretive signage, a bioswale and connection to the Skyline Trail. They also hosted a trail opening event. RMC staff are awaiting the final report and payment request as the final tasks on this grant to be completed.	Planning + Development	\$231,739
	South Gate LA River Parkway Access Improvements	City of South Gate	3588	Improvements to the Southern Avenue and Hollydale Los Angeles River Parkway Access. Improvements will feature new gates, fencing, native landscaping and interpretive signage.	The project manager is currently working with other City departments and LA Watershed Management District to finalize the design ideas, and create an RFP.	Planning + Development	\$250,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status Report</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
	South Gate Riparian Habitat Restoration	North East Trees	3237	Land tenure negotiations are underway with various entities to allow the restoration of this acreage for riparian/open space uses. The property actually lies within the jurisdiction of the City of Lynwood.	As of May 2006, NET is returning to the RMC Board for approval of rescaping and extension on this project. Additional property is under consideration and the new scoping will allow feasibility assessment. The City of Southgate would also prefer a regional project.	Planning + Development	\$500,000
	Sycamore Canyon Park Trail Development Project-Diamond Bar	City of Diamond Bar	3220	The Sycamore Canyon Trail Development project would develop the first trail increment of the City's five site city-wide trail system. Sycamore Canyon Park is an existing 50 acre city park that provides active recreation along with an undeveloped trail that begins at the existing parking lot near Golden Springs Drive and travels through undeveloped areas east toward Diamond Bar Boulevard. The undeveloped trails follow near an existing stream and four acres of walnut woodlands capable of supporting California Gnatcatcher and the Arroyo Toad. The proposal would result in a clearly defined path surfaced with decomposed granite and redwood headers.	Construction is complete, all grading and filling is complete, irrigation, concrete, fencing, deck and steps as well as plantings are complete. The trail opened on February 25, 2006.	Planning + Development	\$124,081
	Sycamore Canyon Trail Phase II	City of Diamond Bar	3582	The Sycamore Park Trail travels 0.6 mile through Sycamore Canyon Park and another 1.5 miles in upper Sycamore Canyon all the way to the Diamond Bar Center. The project will create two improved access points and two class B trailheads.	The City will be releasing a request for bids for the project in the next quarter.	Planning + Development	\$140,000
	Tejon Park Expansion and Una Lake Equestrian Park	City of Palmdale	3227	Acquisition of Una Lake and surrounding properties to preserve habitat, restore wetlands, and use as passive open space parkland with additional parking as an expansion of Tejon Park. Project includes site design, entitlement and environmental review, site clearing, grading, installation of fencing, arena, arena soil, picnic areas, parking lot and infrastructure.	Since the grant was approved the property was sold to a developer. The Grantee has had early indications that development of Una Lake for open space. The RMC approved an extension to the performance period based on the above scenario. No further progress has been reported since the previous report.	Acquisition + Planning + Development	\$265,000

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status Report</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
	Train Depot Staging Area	City of Bellflower	3291	Restoration of an existing historical train depot into a regional trail rest stop/staging area as well as transit facility. Rehabilitated train station will be used as a staging area and rest area for future bikeway trail (partial funding already obtained for this project). Conceptual plans have been completed and the City will submit preliminary plans to RMC staff in May/June 2006. The project is still on task to be completed no later than 12/31/06 within the constraints of the 18 month grant period.	Historical report and assessment of the train station has been completed. Concept design is complete construction drawings are at the 45% complete stage. Grantee has submitted request for grant extension to 12/31/06. Design plans begin ~ June '06. Grantee is aware and has agreed that all construction will be complete by 12/31/06 when the funds sunset (18 month grant).	Planning + Development	\$250,000
	Vincent Lugo Park Renovation	City of San Gabriel	3209	Develop a master plan for the renovation of Vincent Lugo Park. Master Plan will link San Gabriel Unified School District, the City, and Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Improvement contemplated include interpretive walking trail, reintroduction of native plants, picnic shelters reflecting the City's unique cultural heritage.	The City of San Gabriel has been working to proceed with Phase 1 of the park improvements. Funding is being sought from a number of sources. An action item for proposed funding is on the agenda for this board meeting. If funding is secured, it is hoped that construction can begin in early 2007.	Planning	\$75,000
	Washington Park Implementation-Pasadena	City of Pasadena	3205	Development, rehabilitation and restoration of Washington Park. Includes an interpretive Center and historic El Molino Walkway, development of a demonstration garden, park arroyo and stage area and development of a historic picnic area.	Construction on the park has begun. Demolition and preparation of the planting areas is complete.	Planning + Development	\$331,544
	Water Bond Project Management Services (Capital Projects)	Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority	3591	At the direction of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) Executive Officer, the MRCA shall perform tasks for projects on the RMC Workprogram.	Multiple Category		\$294,375

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

Photos	Project Name	Applicant	RMC No.	Project Description	Status Report	Project Type	Funding
No photo	Watershed Assessment and Planning Opportunities	Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council	3589	The RMC grant would provide support to the Watershed Council to prepare a concept proposal, the first step in a two-stage application process, to seek funds for (1) the establishment of a county-wide public official outreach and education program, and (2) utilize existing organizations (e.g., Councils of Government) to build a network of subwatershed (or sub-regional) discussion groups focused on watershed issues, to improve stakeholder outreach on water management strategies, generate additional input on the articulation of regional priorities, and identify projects that will address these priorities.	The grantee shall develop a project proposal for Proposition 50, Ch. 7 grant programs, host a project workshop and coordinate regional interests in the program.	Multiple Category	\$9,240
	<b>Our Watersheds: The Environment in Southern California</b>		3219	University of California Cooperative Education and East LA College are cooperating to develop a multilingual interpretation and education curriculum to English as Second Language learners. Surveys with students using the program are in progress.	Grantee has implemented the curriculum with the East Los Angeles College ESL program. Revisions are in progress and survey for behavioral changes and learning are in progress.	Interpretation	\$32,094
	An English as a Second Language Curriculum Draft September 1st, 2009	TreePeople	3267	Treepeople will provide services including Agency and Policy Maker education, Environmental Learning Program and Public Affairs Consultation. Efforts continue to define this scope of work.	Grantee is working with RMC staff to redefine scope of work, as planned scope is no longer feasible.	Planning	\$188,750
No photo	Watershed Education Outreach	Los Angeles Conservation Corps	3250	This grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps provides for improvements within the San Gabriel River Watershed such as invasive weed control, mulching and removal of debris. Working with the RMC staff, LACC will identify and develop a workplan for specific projects as needed.	Staff is working with LACC to identify potential improvement projects.	Planning + Development	\$150,000

**ACTIVE PROJECTS**

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status Report</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
	West San Gabriel River Open Space Project Phase II	City of Lakewood	3543	Similar to the Phase 1 improvements already completed, Phase 2 includes development of 2.3 acres of open space adjacent to the west side of San Gabriel River, improved bike path linkage to river trails and planting of several species of California indigenous trees, meadow grasses and shrubs. The project will expand the "greening" of the San Gabriel River Trail along this segment.	Planning is continuing for this project and the grantee is working with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works for use of a section of Right of Way along the river adjacent to the project area. Not further progress has been reported for this period.	Planning + Development	\$300,000
	Woodland Duck Farm Acquisition	Watershed Conservation Authority	3255	Acquisition, planning and implementation of a riverfront park along the San Gabriel River. This 58 acre project provides a unique opportunity to connect the communities on the east side of the 605 Frewy to the west via this property and on to either the San Jose Creek Bike Trail or the San Gabriel River Bike Trail once the connections are completed by LADPW. There is also significant opportunities for habitat restoration, watershed improvements, educational and low impact recreational uses on the site. These funds will be applied to future RMC projects as authorized by the Board.	No further progress has been reported for this project.	Acquisition + Planning + Development	\$1,443,575
	Workprogram Implementation Grant	WCA	3254	Pending allocation to specific projects.	Pending allocation to specific projects.	Acquisition, Planning, Development	\$3,197,481

**ACTIVE PROJECTS**

<b>Photos</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>RMC No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status Report</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>
	Wrigley Heights Acquisition	City of Long Beach	3203	Acquisition of 20 acres of L.A. River front property for future restoration, recreation and open space. Negotiations continue, and grantee will present updated information to RMC staff in late March as to the status.	The property owner is seeking approval for a storage unit facility while city staff is pursuing other funding opportunities for the site as the asking price is considerably more than the grant amount.	Acquisition	\$5,000,000

**DATE:** **March 20, 2006**

**TO:** **WCA Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 7A: Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant amendment to the Watershed Conservation Authority Azusa River Wilderness Park Grant (RMC3260) from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the WCA approve a resolution authorizing a grant amendment to the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) Azusa River Wilderness Park Grant (RMC3260) to decrease the available funds by \$740,000 to \$1,284,920.

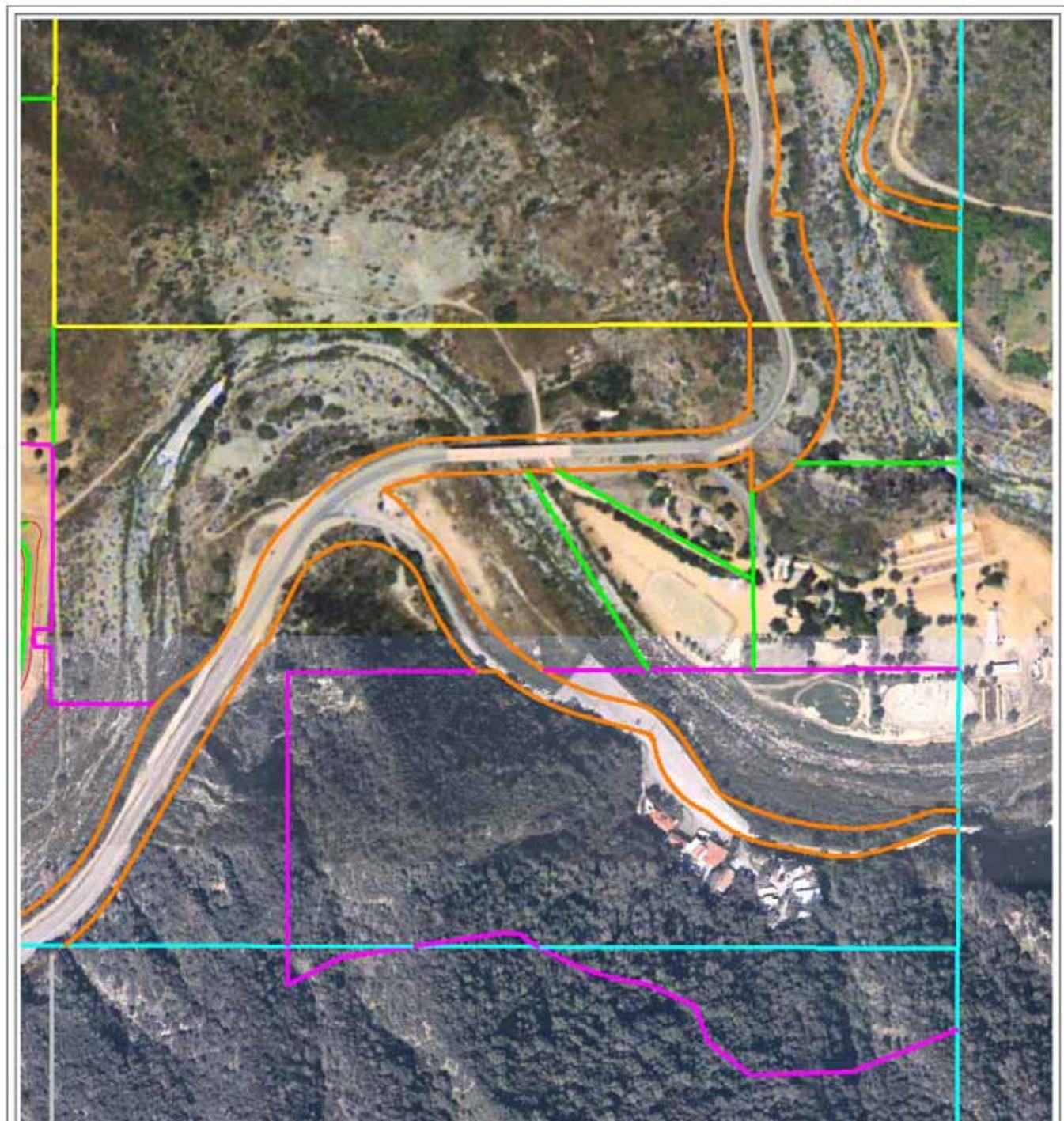
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project is a fee simple acquisition of the 39 acre El Encanto property in Azusa within the Azusa River Wilderness Park (Park) project. The total size of the proposed Park is approximately 89-acres. The El Encanto parcel is one of 8 parcels in the total Park area. It is anticipated that this site will provide passive open space with public viewing access to the river, opportunities for watershed improvements, educational uses and habitat restoration and access to the Angeles National Forest.

**BACKGROUND:** On November 21, 2005 the WCA authorized the assignment of grant agreements by the City of Azusa (RMC3260) and Resources Agency grant (12107-01) to the Watershed Conservation Authority. The Watershed Conservation Authority also approved these actions related to the Azusa River Wilderness Park project, El Encanto property.

1. Approval of the purchase agreement between the Trust for Public Land and the WCA for acquisition of approximately 39 acres of the El Encanto property within the Azusa River Wilderness Park (RMC3260), Assessors Parcel Numbers: 8684-027-001, 8684-027-001, in the City of Azusa. Negotiators: Belinda V. Faustinos, WCA and Brady Moss, Trust for Public Land. Under consideration: Price and terms.
2. Accept a grant from the California Resources Agency for this project subject to the assignment of these funds by the City of Azusa.
3. Approval of such budget amendments that may be necessary to acquire, make minor alterations and manage the El Encanto property.

In February of 2006 the purchase of El Encanto was completed with the recording of the deed in the name of the Watershed Conservation Authority. The tasks that remain are the minor refurbishments of the restaurant building, the relocation and the planning efforts for the Azusa River Wilderness Park project. In order to better track the completion of WCA projects it is recommended that the grant be amended in order to close the acquisition portion of this project and establish a new grant for planning and implementation.

**FISCAL INFORMATION:** Reduction of the grant amount in the amount of \$740,080 leaving \$1,284,920 in the current grant. Of the \$1,284,920: \$946,420 went to the purchase of the property, with \$325,000 for minor refurbishments (total \$1,271,420 into escrow). The \$740,000 is recommended to be moved to a new grant that is specifically for the planning and implementation of the Azusa River Wilderness Park project (Budgeted in these amounts: \$650,000 for relocation of residents, \$90,080 for planning and implementation.) A detailed budget is attached to this report.



**Azusa River Park**

200 0 200 400 Feet

**Azusa River Wilderness Park Funding (RMC3260)**  
**May 2006**

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>			<b>Proposed Prop 40 Reduction RMC3260</b>
	<b>Prop 12</b>	<b>Prop 13</b>	<b>Prop 40</b>	
<b>Funded Amounts</b>	<b>\$2,017,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,025,000</b>	
<b>Acquisition</b>				
Taylor Parcel	\$418,000			\$418,000
El Encanto Parcels	\$2,007,000	\$546,580	\$946,420	\$3,500,000
Appraisal Fees		\$2,500		\$2,500
Transaction Review		\$3,268	\$0	\$3,268
Misc Fees (CEOQA, TITLE, FILING, ETC)		\$9,803	\$10,000	\$19,803
Legal Fees		\$9,849		\$9,849
Relocation Report			\$3,500	\$3,500
Funding Signage	\$10,000	\$10,000		\$20,000
<b>Relocation</b>				
Taylor Parcel				\$0
Estimated Costs for EI Encanto		\$650,000		\$650,000
				<b>(\$650,000)</b>
<b>Repairs</b>				
Taylor House				\$0
El Encanto		\$325,000		\$325,000
<b>Reserve</b>				
Planning & Implementation			\$90,080	\$90,080
				<b>(\$90,080)</b>
<b>Total Expended</b>	<b>\$2,017,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,025,000</b>	<b>\$1,284,920</b>
				<b>(\$740,080)</b>

May 22, 2006 – Item 7A  
RESOLUTION 2006-07

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACCEPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE AZUSA RIVER WILDERNESS PARK PROJECT (RMC3260).

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established to facilitate joint projects between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhoods, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002 (Park Bond Act)

WHEREAS, the Azusa River Wilderness Park is a project that supports the RMC goals and objectives and the RMC has authorized a grant to the WCA for such project; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

*Therefore be it resolved*, that the WCA hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. ACCEPTS a grant amendment providing for a decrease of \$740,000 for the Azusa River Wilderness Park project.
4. ADOPTS the staff report dated May 22, 2006.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

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Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY on May 22, 2006.

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Frank Colonna, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Terry Fujimoto,  
Deputy Attorney General

**DATE:** **May 22, 2006**

**TO:** **WCA Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 7B: Consideration of a resolution accepting a grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the Azusa River Wilderness Park Planning and Implementation project (RMC3296).**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the WCA approve a resolution accepting a grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the Azusa River Wilderness Park Planning and Implementation project (RMC3296).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project is the site planning and implementation for the Azusa River Wilderness Park and the El Encanto property within the park. This will encompass the planning process and the initial implementation of the created site plan that may include CEQA and relocation of some or all of the residents at the El Encanto property.

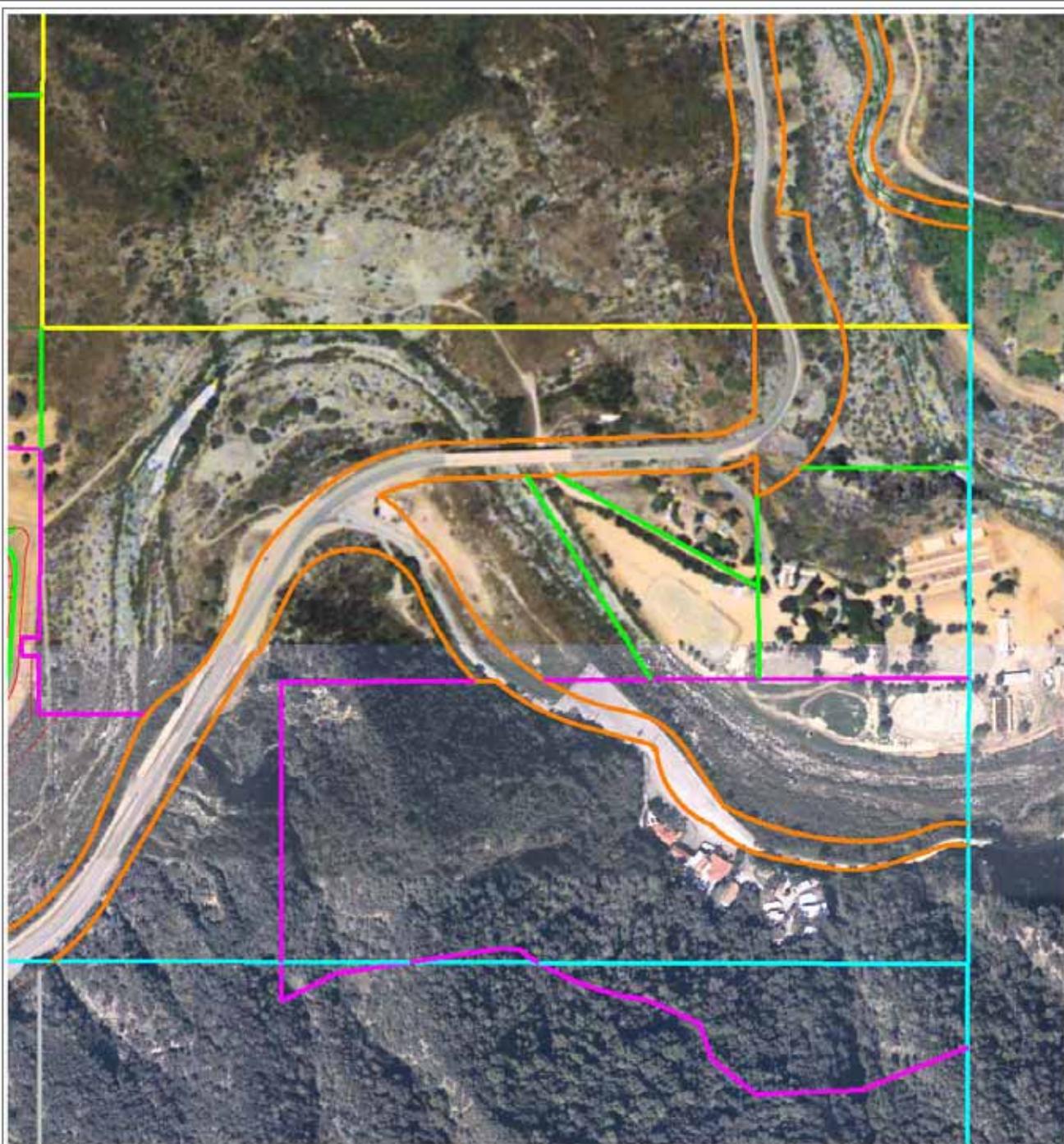
**BACKGROUND:** : On November 21, 2005 the WCA authorized the assignment of grant agreements by the City of Azusa (RMC3260) and Resources Agency grant (12107-01) to the Watershed Conservation Authority. The WCA also approved the following actions related to the Azusa River Wilderness Park project, El Encanto property.

1. Approved of the purchase agreement between the Trust for Public Land and the WCA for acquisition of approximately 39 acres of the El Encanto property within the Azusa River Wilderness Park (RMC3260), Assessors Parcel Numbers: 8684-027-001, 8684-027-001, in the City of Azusa. Negotiators: Belinda V. Faustinos, WCA and Brady Moss, Trust for Public Land. Under consideration: Price and terms.
2. Accepted a grant from the California Resources Agency for this project subject to the assignment of these funds by the City of Azusa.
3. Approved of such budget amendments that may be necessary to acquire, make minor alterations and manage the El Encanto property.

In February of 2006 the purchase of El Encanto was completed with the recording of the deed in the name of the Watershed Conservation Authority. The tasks that remained were the minor refurbishments of the restaurant building, the relocation and the planning efforts for the Azusa River Wilderness Park project.

The WCA has completed the consultant selection process and will recommend awarding a contract to Blue Green Open Space Planning & Design to design the Azusa River Wilderness Park and create a site plan for El Encanto. With that process staff was able to establish a budget and preliminary costs for the planning process. The planning process is slated to take 12 months, with implementation strategies defined in the planning documents created in this process.

**FISCAL INFORMATION:** It is recommended that the funding for this project come from the reduction in the Azusa River Wilderness Park project (RMC3260), Proposition 40 funds and additional Proposition 50 funds. The total budget will be \$875,945 in accordance with the attached budget detail. It is recommended that \$ \$740,080 come from Proposition 40, the funds reduced from the Azusa River Wilderness Park project (RMC3260).



**Azusa River Park**

200 0 200 400 Feet

**Azusa River Wilderness Park Funding (RMC3260)**  
**May 2006**

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>			<b>Proposed Prop 40 Reduction RMC3260</b>
	<b>Prop 12</b>	<b>Prop 13</b>	<b>Prop 40</b>	
<b>Funded Amounts</b>	<b>\$2,017,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,025,000</b>	
<b>Acquisition</b>				
Taylor Parcel	\$418,000			\$418,000
El Encanto Parcels	\$2,007,000	\$546,580	\$946,420	\$3,500,000
Appraisal Fees		\$2,500		\$2,500
Transaction Review		\$3,268	\$0	\$3,268
Misc Fees (CEOQA, TITLE, FILING, ETC)		\$9,803	\$10,000	\$19,803
Legal Fees		\$9,849		\$9,849
Relocation Report			\$3,500	\$3,500
Funding Signage	\$10,000	\$10,000		\$20,000
<b>Relocation</b>				
Taylor Parcel				\$0
Estimated Costs for EI Encanto		\$650,000		\$650,000
				<b>(\$650,000)</b>
<b>Repairs</b>				
Taylor House				\$0
EI Encanto		\$325,000		\$325,000
<b>Reserve</b>				
Planning & Implementation			\$90,080	\$90,080
				<b>(\$90,080)</b>
<b>Total Expended</b>	<b>\$2,017,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,025,000</b>	<b>\$1,284,920</b>
				<b>(\$740,080)</b>

**Azusa River Wilderness Park  
Planning & Implementation Budget (RMC3596)**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Prop 40 Redirected RMC3260</b>	<b>Prop 50 Proposed Funds</b>	<b>Total Budget</b>
<b>Planning</b>			
Blue Green	\$90,080	\$135,865	\$225,945
<b>Relocation</b>			
Estimated for El Encanto	\$650,000		\$650,000
<b>Total Each Proposition</b>	<b>\$740,080</b>	<b>\$135,865</b>	<b>\$875,945</b>

May 22, 2006 – Item 7B

RESOLUTION 2006-08

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY FOR THE AZUSA RIVER WILDERNESS PARK PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT (RMC3596).

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established to facilitate joint projects between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Azusa River Wilderness Park is a project that supports the RMC goals and objectives and the RMC has authorized a grant to the WCA for such project; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); NOW

*Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:*

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. ACCEPTS a grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy in the amount \$875,945 of for the Azusa River Wilderness Planning and Implementation project (RMC3596)

*~ End of Resolution ~*

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Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY on May 22, 2006.

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Frank Colonna, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Terry Fujimoto,  
Deputy Attorney General

**DATE:** **May 22, 2006**

**TO:** **WCA Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 7C: Consideration of resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Azusa regarding the Taylor property, Azusa River Wilderness Park.**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the WCA approve a resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Azusa regarding the Taylor property, Azusa River Wilderness Park.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Azusa is to cooperatively manage the Taylor Property within the Azusa River Wilderness Park.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2001 the City of Azusa applied for several grants to purchase property to create the Azusa River Wilderness Park. The Azusa River Wilderness Park is situated on the San Gabriel River at the mouth of San Gabriel Canyon below Morris Dam. On October 17, 2001 the Resources Agency approved a grant to the RMC in the amount of \$1 million for a sub grant to the City of Azusa from Proposition 13 funds (12107-01) for the Azusa River Wilderness Park project. The grant application specified two parcels for acquisition; however a third parcel was added to the approved acquisition list in June 2002.

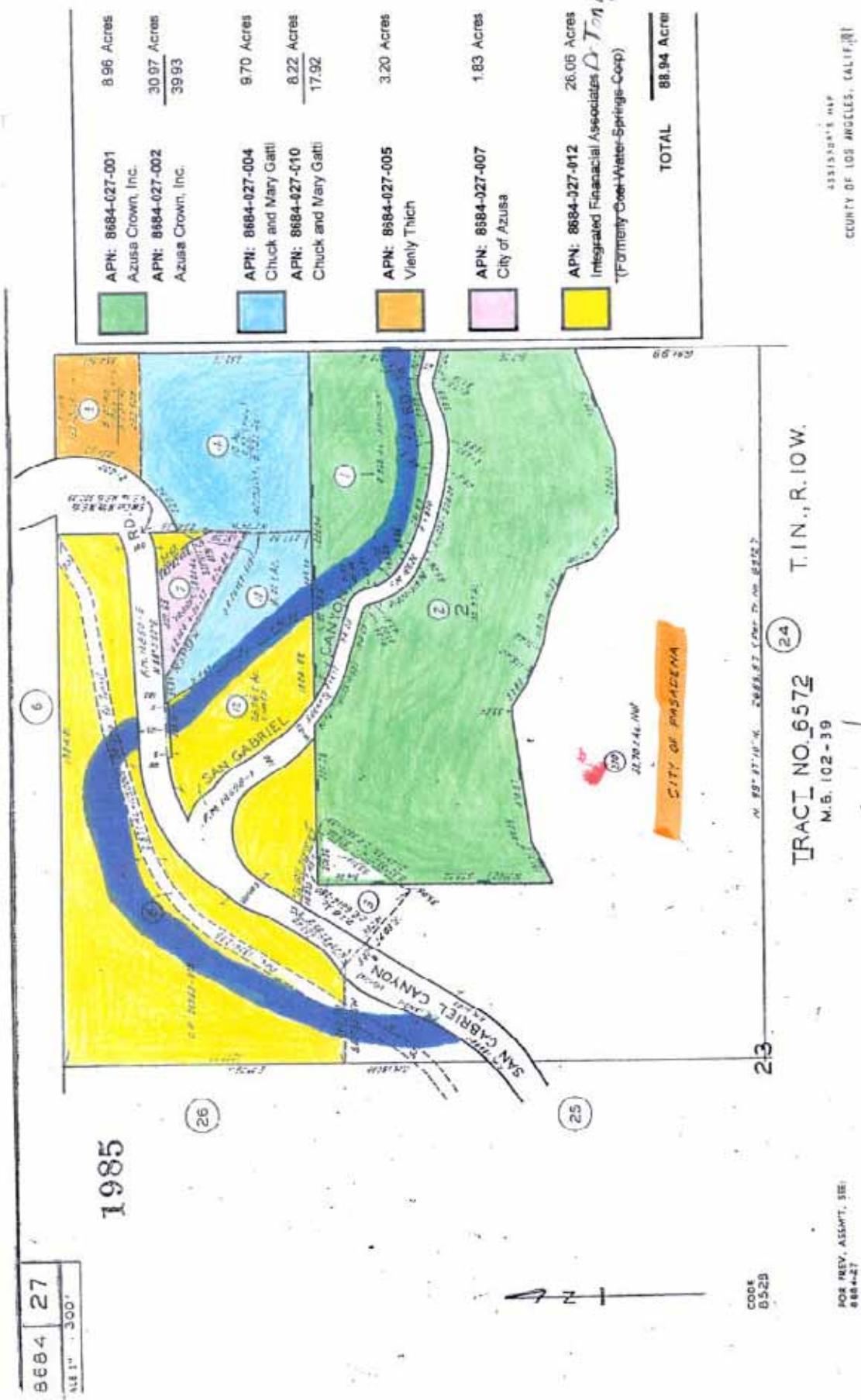
In November 2002, the first 1.8-acre parcel (Taylor property) of the Azusa River Wilderness Park was purchased by the City. The Taylor property has several buildings on it, a home and garage with a studio. At the time of purchase the property had a tenant, it is currently vacant and in need of some minor repairs. Currently the City has no funds or staff to operate the Taylor parcel as open space, or to maintain the buildings and amenities on the property. The property was purchased as the first step in a larger effort, the Azusa River Wilderness Park, the WCA added to the park with its purchase of the 39.9 acre El Encanto (RMC3260).

There are several ideas that will integrate the property into the park. The first is to ensure that the entire Azusa River Wilderness Park is planned when creating a site plan for El Encanto. There are several non-profit organizations that are looking for office or program space on or near the San Gabriel River, enter into an agreement with one or two of these organizations that would allow their use of the property in exchange for their maintenance of the property. Another option would be to put a rent paying tenant in the house on the property and fold its maintenance into the current operations at El Encanto.

**FISCAL INFORMATION:** The WCA would pursue tenants for the Taylor property to have the property occupied, to keep the property in good repair and usefulness. Any funds needed to manage the Taylor Property would come from the tenants that may

utilize the house on the property. If the WCA pursues a paying tenant the rent income would be adjusted to more than cover the costs of maintenance and operations of the property and buildings (brushing, weeding, well maintenance, painting and minor repairs of the buildings, insurance, and security). If the WCA pursues non-profit tenants the agreement with those entities would be that the tenant would maintain and operate the property and its amenities, these entities would pay for any services that they deem are necessary for their operations.

# Azusa River Park



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 (“Effective Date”) between the City of Azusa, a California municipal corporation (“City”), Watershed Conservation (“WCA”), a joint powers authority (Government Code 6500 *et seq.*) of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (“RMC”) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District whose mission is to provide for a comprehensive program to expand and improve the open space and recreational opportunities for the conservation, restoration and environmental enhancement of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Watershed area constituent with the goals of flood protection, water supply, groundwater recharge and water conservation. The City of Azusa and the WCA are sometimes individually referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties” throughout this MOU.

### **RECITALS**

A. The City of Azusa has always been referred to as “The Canyon City”. The City serves as a gateway to the Angeles National Forest - the San Gabriel Canyon which receives over seven million visitors a year. The mountains, with their extensive trails, and streams provide a variety of habitats for native plants and animals. The City has been working diligently to restore and reconnect with the San Gabriel River. The City has updated its General Plan. The open space component of the updated General Plan includes concepts and ideas to preserve the foothills and the river, thus making the City of Azusa a place where nature and the city can merge. This vision includes establishing a network of hiking trails, creating pocket parks in available open space, developing and maximizing public access points, and restoring the natural fauna and habitat.

B. Existing City projects along the San Gabriel River include: extension of the existing San Gabriel River bike path; landscaping of the San Gabriel Canyon Spreading Basins; creation of a River Wilderness Park; and the rehabilitation of the current Forest Service information center into an Education Center and Interpretive Park.

C. WCA’s authorizing statute, the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, codified in Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code (commencing with 6500). The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District’s purpose in this agreement it to provide for a comprehensive program to expand and improve the open space and recreational opportunities for the conservation, restoration, and environmental enhancement of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Watershed area consistent with the goals of flood protection, water supply, groundwater recharge and water conservation. Also integral to the purpose of their agreement is the acquisition and protection of lands for watershed protection, conservation, natural open space, and recreation purposes.

D. On May 3, 2004, the City acquired the Taylor Property (APN 8684-027-007) at 2330 North San Gabriel Canyon Road, Azusa, CA for the purposes

of creating a riverfront park along the San Gabriel River and establishing its use, in perpetuity, as open space for passive natural and recreational uses and other compatible public uses, all as may be consistent with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection and Flood Protection Act of 2000 (Prop 13) as well as the City of Azusa General Plan.

E. At the request of the City, on November 21, 2005 the WCA accepted the assignment of the grant agreements by the City of Azusa (RMC 3260) and the Resources Agency (12107-01) to the WCA. On this date the WCA also authorized the purchase and management of the El Encanto property within the proposed Wilderness Park boundary.

F. The WCA will oversee, manage and plan for the proposed Azusa River Wilderness Park currently established with the following properties purchased by public entities parcel APN's: 8684-027-001, & 002 (El Encanto), 8684-027-007 (Taylor) with representation and input from the City and all other vested stakeholders. These properties are located on Old San Gabriel Road and San Gabriel Canyon Road in the City of Azusa.

G. The Parties desire to enter into this MOU to set forth their understanding with respect to the City's ownership of the Taylor property and their continued interest in the proposed Azusa River Wilderness Park and the WCA's ownership of El Encanto and its continued responsibility and interest to manage the properties within the proposed Wilderness Park (see attached Exhibit A Legal Descriptions of property).

#### ***TERMS***

1. Purpose. The City agrees to allow the WCA to operate and maintain the Taylor Property within the Azusa River Wilderness Park where the City holds the fee title. The WCA agrees to keep the purposes and use of the Taylor Property within the purposes of the park as defined in the grants awarded to the Azusa River Wilderness Park.

2. Compensation. There will be no compensation exchanged between the parties, however there may be an exchange of services of one or both parties in the operations and maintenance of the Taylor Property.

3. Duration of MOU. This MOU shall terminate on the date that the WCA ownership interest in the Wilderness Park is terminated as the title holder on the El Encanto Property (APN 8648-027-001, 8648-027-002, unless terminated earlier as provided for in Section 4.

4. Termination of MOU. Either the City or the WCA may terminate the MOU at any time and for any reason upon thirty (30) days advance written notice to the other party.

5. Attorneys' Fees. In the event any action is commenced to enforce or interpret any term or condition of this MOU, in addition to costs and any other relief, the prevailing party shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees, expert fees and other reasonable costs of defense.

6. Entire Agreement; Amendment. This MOU contains the entire agreement of the Parties hereto with respect to the matters contained herein, and supersedes all negotiations, prior discussions and preliminary agreements or understandings, written or oral. No waiver or modification of this MOU shall be binding unless consented to by both Parties in writing.

7. Assignment. This MOU shall be binding on the successors of the Parties. Assignment shall require the concurrence of all Parties.

8. Waiver. No waiver of any default shall constitute a waiver of any other default or breach, whether of the same or other covenant or condition. No waiver, benefit, privilege, or service voluntarily given or performed by a party shall give the other party any contractual rights by custom, estoppel, or otherwise.

9. Invalidity and Severability. If any portion of this MOU is declared invalid, illegal, or otherwise unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

10. Cooperation; Further Acts. The Parties shall fully cooperate with one another, and shall take any additional acts or sign any additional documents as may be necessary, appropriate or convenient to attain the purposes of this MOU.

11. Governing Law. This MOU shall be governed by the laws of the State of California. Venue shall be in Los Angeles County.

12. Incorporation of Recitals. The Recitals are incorporated herein and made an operative part of this MOU.

13. Authority to Enter into MOU. City and the WCA warrant that they have all requisite power and authority to execute and perform this MOU. Each person executing this MOU on behalf of their party warrants that he or she has the legal power, right, and authority to make this MOU and bind his or her respective party.

14. Counterparts. This MOU may be signed in counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original.

15. Construction of MOU. This MOU will be liberally construed to effectuate the intention of the Parties with respect to the matters described herein. In determining the meaning of, or resolving any ambiguity with respect to, any word, phrase or provision of this MOU, neither this MOU nor any uncertainty or ambiguity herein will be construed or resolved against either Party (including the Party primarily

responsible for drafting and preparation of this MOU), under any rule of construction or otherwise, it being expressly understood and agreed that the Parties have participated equally or have had equal opportunity to participate in the drafting hereof.

16. Headings. The headings of Sections of this MOU have been inserted for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of any of the provisions of this MOU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this MOU to be executed as of the date first above written.

***WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY***

*By* \_\_\_\_\_  
Belinda Faustinos  
Executive Director

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY OF AZUSA**

*By* \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor  
City of Azusa

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

May 22, 2006 – Item 7C

RESOLUTION 2006-09

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF AZUSA REGARDING THE TAYLOR PROPERTY, AZUSA RIVER WILDERNESS PARK.

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established to facilitate joint projects between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Azusa River Wilderness Park is a project that supports the RMC goals and objectives and the RMC has authorized a grant to the WCA for such project; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); NOW

*Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:*

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. AUTHORIZES the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Azusa regarding the Taylor property, Azusa river wilderness park..

*~ End of Resolution ~*

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY on May 22, 2006.

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Frank Colonna, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Terry Fujimoto,  
Deputy Attorney General

**DATE:** **May 22, 2006**

**TO:** **WCA Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 7D: Consideration of resolution authorizing a Memorandum of residential lease agreement with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) and the MRCA Ranger for the El Encanto property.**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Watershed Conservation Authority enter into a residential lease with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) and the MRCA Ranger for the El Encanto property.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This agreement is a residential lease between the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), the MRCA Ranger and the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) for the El Encanto property.

**BACKGROUND:** The El Encanto property is one of 8 parcels in the Azusa River Wilderness Park area. It is anticipated that this site will provide passive open space with public viewing access to the river, opportunities for watershed improvements, educational uses and habitat restoration and access to the Angeles National Forest. Along with the open space on the El Encanto property there are improvements: a restaurant building, Garages with an apartment over them, a duplex, a 12 pad mobile home park, a parking lot and a water system. The El Encanto property has clearly defined public access and has frequent use by the residents, local community members and visitors from all parts of the RMC territory.

The MRCA Rangers have been able to do the brushing on the property, keep the park clean of trash and graffiti, meet and talk to the visitors in the park. The first three months of ownership have shown that the property is most active on weekend days and nights. The park is closed from sunset to sunrise however there is quite often activity in the parking lot late into the evening and early morning on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The MRCA Rangers have been able to do a few night patrols, they have spoken to many individuals and have issued citations on those evenings to individuals who were inappropriately utilizing the parking lot at El Encanto.

The WCA currently has a contract for Ranger Services at El Encanto that allows for 10 hours of patrol a week; the residential lease will bring the Ranger on to the property more often, particularly at night and enable the Ranger to get more work accomplished and enhance the safety of the property in the night-time hours and weekend hours.

**FISCAL INFORMATION:** After the first quarter owning the property it is becoming apparent that the MRCA Ranger needs to be on the property more often than the WCA has been able to afford. The WCA currently has a contract for 44 hours of Ranger Patrol per month at El Encanto. With the MRCA Ranger living on the property the WCA would receive an additional 25 hours/month of the MRCA Ranger's time working

on the property. Our current contract for Ranger Services at El Encanto with MRCA is for \$60/hour and with the additional 25 hours/month the WCA will receive \$1,500 in services (the current rent on the second half of the Duplex is \$1,400). With these additional Ranger Services hours the initial contract will be reduced to 24 hours per month resulting in 49 Ranger Service hours per month at El Encanto. The property management budget will allow for this expenditure (see attached budget). The increased income from one duplex and the loss of income from the other is an actual loss of income of \$3,180 annually but a gain in work on the property that does not have to be contracted out (brushing, graffiti removal, minor repairs, etc.).

Having a MRCA Ranger living on site also gives the WCA a person on site to deal with any emergency or incident that may occur on the property when staff is not available. There is also income from Citations at \$100/citation, that is paid back bi-annually to the WCA from the MRCA's collection of the fines. There is currently no estimate of what the volume will be of the citation funds.

### **El Encanto Property Budget**

		<b>Feb-06</b>	<b>May-06</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Insurance		\$15,000	\$15,000
Liability Insurance			
Structure Insurance			
Security Services		\$3,600	\$0
Grounds Maintenance		\$3,600	\$0
<b>Ranger Services Contract (24 hr/month)</b>			\$19,420
Structure Maintenance		\$30,000	\$15,000
Utilities		\$19,000	\$19,000
Professional Water Well Service	\$8,000.00		
Trash Service	\$5,000.00		
Utilities (Electrical, propane, phone)	\$6,000.00		
Property Management Administrative Support		\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$81,200</b>	<b>\$78,420</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Rent Payments		\$81,600	\$78,420
Restaurant			\$0
Duplex/Apartment (\$870/mo)	\$10,440.00		
Duplex/Apartment(\$795/mo)	\$9,540.00		
Apartment Over Garage (\$1,100/mo)	\$13,200.00		\$13,200
Mobile Home Pads (10 x \$415/month)	\$44,820.00		\$44,820
Rainbow Ranch (\$300/mo)	\$3,600.00		\$3,600
<b>May-06 Duplex (\$1400/mo)</b>			\$16,800
<b>Ranger Duplex (\$0.00)</b>			\$0
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$81,600</b>	<b>\$78,420</b>

**PROPERTY NAME:** El Encanto

**TENANT:**

**LEASE AGREEMENT**

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT is entered into and effective this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, by and between the Watershed Conservation Authority, a joint powers agency established pursuant to Cal. Gov. Code 6500, *et seq.* (“WCA”) and \_\_\_\_\_ (TENANT), a MRCA Employee, and the following named individual(s), if any, hereinafter referred to as TENANT HOUSEMATES:

The parties do agree as follows:

1. WCA does hereby lease to TENANT that certain real property in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, together with appurtenances, described as follows:  
\_\_\_\_\_ (“PREMISES”).

2. The PREMISES shall be occupied for residential purposes only.

3. The term of this AGREEMENT shall be from June 1, 2006 until December 31 (“Initial Lease Term”); at the end of the Initial Lease Term, this Agreement shall automatically renew for an additional term of one year (Lease Term), and, at the end of each such additional term, shall continue to renew for successive one year terms unless terminated by either WCA or TENANT at any time giving the other party notice in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the date when such termination of the AGREEMENT shall become effective unless one of the following occurs:

a. The employment relationship between TENANT and the MRCA is at will, and therefore said employment relationship is terminable at the will of either the MRCA or the TENANT, with or without cause, at any time. In the event of termination of the employer- relationship between MRCA and TENANT, this AGREEMENT will immediately terminate and TENANT and any TENANT HOUSEMATES will surrender possession of the PREMISES to WCA in 30 days. TENANT acknowledges that in the event the ranger services contract entered into by and between the WCA and the MRCA expires or is otherwise terminated TENANT will be required to surrender the premises to WCA.

b. TENANT will be deemed to be in breach of the AGREEMENT due to gross malfeasance, gross negligence, or criminal conduct on the part of TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES, and in such case, this AGREEMENT is immediately terminated, and TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES will surrender possession of the PREMISES to the WCA within a reasonable time set by the WCA.

c. Breach of any of the provisions of this AGREEMENT by TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES will be grounds for immediate termination of this AGREEMENT, and in such case, the TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES will surrender possession of the PREMISES to the WCA 30 days.

d. It is in the WCA's best interest to terminate this AGREEMENT.

E. The WCA sells or transfers ownership of the PREMISES.

f. Nothing in this AGREEMENT is intended to alter the at-will nature of the TENANT's employment status with the MRCA.

4. TENANT shall occupy the PREMISES at the full discretion of the Executive Officer of the MRCA as part of the compensation to TENANT in his capacity as an at-will of the MRCA and at the full discretion of WCA. Occupancy of the PREMISES by TENANT HOUSEMATE(S) is conditioned upon the continued employment of TENANT with the MRCA, compliance with park rules by TENANT HOUSEMATES and compliance with the provisions of this AGREEMENT by both TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATE(S). As a requirement of continued employment with the MRCA, TENANT is expected to perform the responsibilities described in Paragraph 6 of this AGREEMENT in a satisfactory manner, as determined by the Executive Officer of the MRCA or his designee and WCA.

5. WCA has determined that it is in the best interest of the WCA to have TENANT , so long as he is employed by the MRCA, occupy and manage the PREMISES for the purposes of public safety, property protection and to perform the duties set forth in Paragraph 6 of this AGREEMENT. Therefore, the public benefit services provided by TENANT are in lieu of monetary compensation for the lease of subject property.

Failure to perform the services listed in Paragraph 6 below in a satisfactory manner, as determined by the Executive Officer of the MRCA or his designee and WCA shall constitute a breach of this AGREEMENT. Furthermore, should TENANT cease to be an of the MRCA for any reason whatsoever, TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES shall be subject to notice to vacate PREMISES pursuant to Paragraph 3 of this AGREEMENT.

6. TENANT shall be responsible for the following duties:

- a. Keeping the PREMISES in a decent, safe and sanitary condition;
- b. Report any hazardous condition or unusual situation to the

Executive Officer of the WCA or his designee;

- c. Be on 24 hour call to respond to emergencies when present in PARK;

These responsibilities and rules shall be evaluated in a formal review on one or more occasions during the term of this AGREEMENT.

7. In the event of default, rent for any holdover period shall be \$1500 per month. This provision for holdover rent will apply to TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES if either or both should holdover.

8. WCA shall provide, water, trash and plumbing during the term of the lease. TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES shall pay for all other utilities and for any other services ordered by TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES: installation of personal telephone line and charges for personal telephone calls.

9. WCA will not be responsible for losses or damage to property, equipment or materials of the TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES and all losses shall be reported to WCA and MRCA immediately upon discovery.

10. The appliances and fixtures are the property of the MRCA and shall remain at the PREMISES.

11. TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES agree not to interfere with the interests of any person or persons (or their rights of ingress and egress) that may presently, or in the future, hold oil, gas, or other mineral rights upon or under said PREMISES.

12. TENANT shall, at his sole cost and expense, comply with all of the laws and requirements of all applicable municipal, state and federal laws now in force, or which may be enacted pertaining to the PREMISES and use of the PREMISES as provided by this AGREEMENT.

13. The terms of this AGREEMENT and the covenants herein contained shall apply to and shall bind and inure to the benefit of the heirs, representatives, assigns and successors of the parties hereto.

14. TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES shall not commit, suffer or permit any waste or nuisance on said PREMISES or any acts to be done thereon in violation of any laws or ordinances. TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES shall permit MRCA and WCA or its agents to enter said PREMISES as provided below in section 18.

15. TENANT agrees to pay all lawful taxes, assessments or charges which at any time may be levied upon his interest in this AGREEMENT. It is understood that this lease may create a possessory interest subject to property taxation and TENANT be subject to the payment of any taxes levied on such interest. In the event that TENANT is required to pay possessory interest tax, the amount of said tax actually paid shall be reimbursed to TENANT by WCA after

TENANT submits to WCA a paid bill for said tax.

16. All notices which may be given by either party to the other shall be deemed to have been given when made in writing and deposited in the United States mail, certified and postage prepaid, and addressed to such party at its address set forth under or opposite its signature to this AGREEMENT, or by actual receipt of said notice. Nothing herein contained shall preclude the giving of any such notice by personal service. Either party may change its address for the receipt of notice by giving written notice thereof to the other party in the manner herein provided.

17. TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES shall not assign this AGREEMENT. TENANT and TENANT HOUSEMATES shall not sublet the PREMISES or any portion thereof.

18. WCA shall maintain the PREMISES in good repair and habitable condition. TENANT agrees to keep the PREMISES in a neat, clean and orderly condition at all times. WCA and MRCA may, upon 24 hours prior notice, make inspections of the PREMISES. At the expiration of said term, or any sooner, termination of this AGREEMENT, TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES shall surrender possession of said premises and its appurtenances to WCA in good condition and working order, with exceptions for reasonable wear and tear, damage by the elements, acts of god, or damage or material alterations stemming from circumstances over which TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES had no control. TENANT acknowledges that WCA may on an annual basis inspect the property on the anniversary date of the effective date.

19. TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES shall provide WCA with keys to all door and gate locks on the PREMISES and shall not change the locks without the consent of the WCA.

20. TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES shall not make any alteration to the PREMISES, erect any structures, plant any plants, hang or paint any signs on the PREMISES without the prior consent of the WCA.

21. This AGREEMENT is made upon the express condition that WCA and MRCA, their agents, officers and s are to be free from all liability and claims for damages resulting from the negligence, misconduct or criminal conduct of TENANT , TENANT HOUSEMATES, by reason of any injury to any person or persons, including TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES or property of any kind whatsoever and to whomsoever belonging, including TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES. TENANT agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless WCA and MRCA, their officers, agents and s from all liability, loss, cost or obligation on account of or arising out of any such injury or loss, however occurring. WCA and MRCA will not be liable for any debts or claims that arise from the operation of this AGREEMENT.

22. If TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES abandons, vacates or surrenders the PREMISES, or are disposed by the process of law, any personal property belonging to TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES and left on the PREMISES shall be deemed to be

abandoned at the option of WCA. Failure by TENANT to occupy the PREMISES for a period of thirty (30) days or longer shall constitute abandonment by TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES.

23. It is agreed and understood by all parties hereto that TENANT and any of his agents and s, in the performance of this AGREEMENT, shall act in an independent capacity and not as officer, or agent of the WCA.

24. This tenancy is of a temporary nature and the parties to this AGREEMENT agree that no relocation benefits from WCA or any other public or governmental agency will be sought or provided in any form as a consequence of this tenancy.

25. TENANT shall pay WCA all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees in a reasonable sum, in any action brought by WCA may have, in the event of any breach of any terms or conditions contained in this AGREEMENT or to recover possession of said premises, whether or not such action proceeds to judgment.

26. In addition to any other rights or remedies WCA may have, in the even of any breach of this AGREEMENT by TENANT and/or TENANT HOUSEMATES, WCA shall have the immediate right of re-entry and may take possession of the PREMISES and remove all persons and property therefrom.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this AGREEMENT has been executed by the parties hereon the date first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_,  
**TENANT**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ Name

**TENANT HOUSEMATE**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature

ADDRESS: 96 Old San Gabriel Canyon Road, Azusa, CA 91702

**WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer

ADDRESS: 900 S. Fremont Ave, Annex 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Alhambra, CA 91803

May 22, 2006 – Item 7D  
RESOLUTION 2006-10

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING A RESIDENTIAL LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (MRCA) AND MRCA RANGER FOR THE EL ENCANTO PROPERTY.

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority has been established to facilitate joint projects between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Azusa River Wilderness Park is a project that supports the RMC goals and objectives and the RMC has authorized a grant to the WCA for such project; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act; and NOW

*Therefore be it resolved*, that the WCA hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. AUTHORIZES a residential lease agreement with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) and MRCA ranger for the El Encanto property.
4. ADOPTS the staff report dated May 22, 2006.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY on May 22, 2006.

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Frank Colonna, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Terry Fujimoto,  
Deputy Attorney General

**DATE:** **May 22, 2006**

**TO:** **WCA Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 7E: Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Blue Green Open Space Planning & Design for planning services associated with the Azusa River Wilderness Park.**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the WCA approve a resolution authorizing a contract with Blue Green Open Space Planning & Design in the amount of \$225,945 for planning services associated with the Azusa River Wilderness Park.

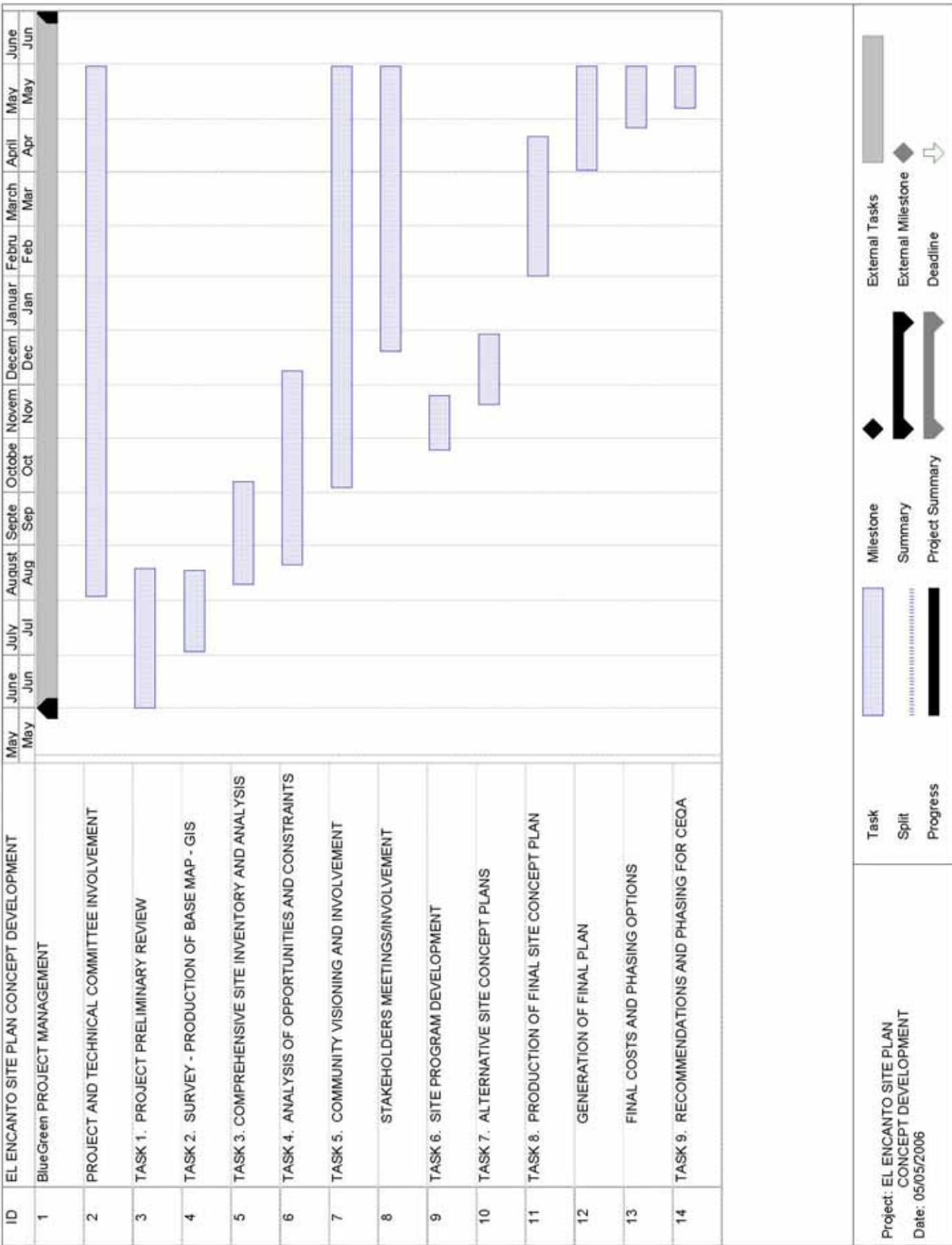
**BACKGROUND:** On November 21, 2005 the RMC recommended that the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) move forward with the purchase of El Encanto, including accepting the City of Azusa's Prop 12 grant for acquisition of land for the Azusa River Wilderness Park and complete some minor alterations on the property necessary to operate the site. The WCA approved the recommendation of the RMC and amended the Prop 12 and Prop 13 grants from the Resources Agency, moved forward with the purchase of the El Encanto property, and had some initial assessment done on the buildings.

Now that the WCA has completed the purchase, it is looking to develop a Site Plan for the El Encanto property. The El Encanto property is a property that has a mobile home park, with 12 spaces, an old restaurant building and three apartments. It is located in a place that is easily accessed by the majority of visitors to San Gabriel Canyon.

The planning will involve input from a full spectrum of stakeholders including representatives from the surrounding jurisdictions and community, City of Azusa, CalTrans, the Azusa Light and Water Company, Department of Fish and Game, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Forest Service, San Gabriel Valley Watermaster, adjoining landowners and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. A number of opportunities for public input will be included in the schedule. The final deliverable, the concept plan, will be presented to the RMC and WCA upon completion. As part of the contract, the consultant will address CEQA compliance for the project and a recommendation regarding CEQA will be presented to the RMC and WCA at the appropriate time.

On January 23, 2006 the WCA authorized the release of a request for proposals to develop plan for the Azusa River Wilderness Park with a focus on a site plan for the El Encanto property. There were nine firms that responded. The selection committee read and evaluated the proposals and conducted interviews of the four strongest candidates. The consultant team that was selected is Blue Green Open Space Planning & Design.

**FISCAL INFORMATION:** The Fee Schedule for the planning process resulting in a site plan for El Encanto and plan for the Azusa River Wilderness Park is \$225,945. See attached budget for the details.



El Encanto Project

**BlueGreen  
Open Space Planning & Design  
STAFFING AND FEE SCHEDULE**

## Fee Estimates

# BlueGreen

## Open Space Planning & Design



### WORK PLAN

#### 1. Project Preliminary Review

##### A. *Project Team Management & Mobilization*

BlueGreen will establish regular communications with the WCA, introduce team members and develop a meeting schedule. BlueGreen and WCA will jointly review and clarify project objectives, goals, and strategies. BlueGreen will refine and submit final project scope, schedule and budget.

##### B. *Site visit with WCA*

##### C. *Interviews and meetings with key institutional stakeholders.*

BlueGreen will interview and meet with key institutional stakeholders to further understand project objectives, identify key personnel for future communication, and request additional miscellaneous data and information.

##### D. *Grant Requirement Review*

BlueGreen will review grant requirements related to Propositions 12, 13, 40 and 50 to ensure compliance with the funding sources.

##### *Deliverables:*

- *Updated scope, budget and schedule*
- *Memos of meetings.*
- *Report and summary table on eligible funding*

## **2. SURVEY – PRODUCTION OF BASE MAP – GIS**

The surveyor will produce a map base from an aerial survey. This base map is then supplemented by a limited number of ground surveys for developed portions of the El-Encanto parcel. It is assumed that no boundary related work will be required for various parcels or easements, and that title reports, utility surveys, and other specialized surveys will be added as additional services at the request of client. The survey and aerial photography will be entered into a GIS project as a base for subsequent base data collection and display.

A. *Survey Control*

Using horizontal and vertical control information from L.A. County, establish new control within the project site. Horizontal control will be on NAD 83 and vertical control will be NAVD 88 Datum.

B. *Aerial Mapping*

An aerial topographic map will be prepared over the 39 acre site to include visible and identifiable features. Map scale will be 1" = 100 with 2' contour interval in AutoCAD.

C. *Supplemental Field Topographic Survey*

Within the developed portions of the land, if not otherwise adequately covered by the aerial survey, the following features: building footprints, major utilities, roadways, pavement, parking lot, walls, gates, and fences at 1" = 40 with 1' contour interval in AutoCAD. Two stream cross-sections and a survey of both stream banks between the bridge and the eastern property boundary.

D. *GIS Project Development*

*Deliverables:*

- *2 Survey Base Maps (electronic and hard copy)*
- *GIS Project*

## **3. COMPREHENSIVE SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS**

A. *Geomorphology*

The San Gabriel River is the dominant natural feature of the El Encanto site and one of the objectives of this project is to create public access and connectivity to a “Place on the River”. Restoration may include creation of terraced riverbank surfaces on the southern bank with introduction of diversified native habitat communities. Portions of the point bar on the northern bank may also be restored. Providing safe trail access to the river and

creating observation areas for bird watching and interpretive education will be major components under any scenario for a future site program.

To provide feasible and safe alternatives that include stream bank alterations, BlueGreen will perform a meticulous analysis of existing physical conditions and a comprehensive compilation of available hydrologic data for the river channel. This includes a field evaluation of river channel materials, channel shape, dimensions, bank materials, and bank morphology. An analysis of historical aerial photography will be performed to better understand the historical evolution of the present physical and biological conditions.

Historic gaging records and dam release patterns, as well as dam operation manuals and other water management activities will be studied and compiled. Seasonal changes of stream flow, flooding, erosion, and sedimentation will be evaluated and existing hydrologic and hydraulic flow models for the site will be studied to obtain an accurate spatial picture of the depths of inundation and erosion potential along the study site. Addition of cross-sectional data and bank surveys from this study will then allow development of feasible project alternatives.

*B. Biological Resources Assessment*

The project offers opportunities for restoring riparian and other diversified habitat communities. As basis for restoration plan development and to avoid impacts on existing biological resources BonTerra will perform a site reconnaissance survey for the entire 89 acre wilderness park site.

For the El-Encanto parcel, an existing biological resources map will be produced on a topographic base map. Key biological features noted during the reconnaissance will be recorded with GPS equipment to facilitate accurate mapping of site conditions.

Biological conditions in the San Gabriel River reaches that are adjacent to the wilderness park site will be identified during the site reconnaissance and incorporated into the existing conditions map. A GIS map will be prepared to depict the existing conditions noted during the reconnaissance survey.

*C. Soils, Geology, and Slope Stability Characterization*

In order to develop a complete set of baseline data BlueGreen will visually inspect the surface distribution of soils and compare it to available soil conservation maps. A GIS-layer of the soil distribution will be produced. Geology maps will be consulted, field checked and introduced into the GIS project. Qualitative evaluation of the soils permeability will be performed in order to determine the site's potential for groundwater recharge.

Visual inspection of the terrain will include an inspection of all slopes for signs of slope instability. A report will make suggestions as to the necessity of further geo-technical studies to evaluate the feasibility of project components. Needs for

remediation (building) or disposal (excavation) will be identified through reviewing all available previous Environmental Assessment reports. In addition, historical and recent aerial photography will be used to substantiate or add to available knowledge of objectionable or hazardous site conditions.

For areas that are candidates for restoration and planting, agricultural soil samples will be taken and sent to a certified soil lab for analysis. Resulting tests will be made available in the project report with a short evaluation of planting suitability by a landscape architect or restoration biologist.

*D. Open-Space Connectivity*

A stated goal for this project is to spatially tie the El-Encanto site into the existing open space and develop much needed connectivity. Blue Green envisions this connectivity to evolve on both human and biological levels at various scales. BlueGreen will produce several layers of a GIS data set displaying all major components of the open-space connectivity “puzzle”. Mapping will include 2 scales of analysis. The first scale will be on the local scale of the El Encanto parcel and wilderness park. The second scale will address the broader regional context.

For the biological evaluation of habitat connectivity BlueGreen will incorporate newly available GIS data sets developed by the Green Visions project at the University of Southern California. The spatial distribution of key indicator species and habitat connectivity will be most useful. As part of the field reconnaissance BonTerra will evaluate the severity of existing impediments to wildlife connectivity with surrounding private and public open space. They will evaluate the degree of habitat fragmentation and patchiness in the project area and the wilderness park.

The 2-scaled approach will allow the development of design goals specifically geared towards addressing biological connectivity problems on the wider scale of wildlife corridors. It will also address more immediate physical impediments caused by current or planned project components such as fences, buildings, roadways, street lighting, noise, traffic, and others.

At the broader human scale BlueGreen will establish a GIS data base that presents spatial linkage and connectivity to other open space at a regional scale including, but not limited to, those shown on the San Gabriel River Corridor Master Plan. The most recent Green Vision data on recreational and natural open space will be consulted, and research on park use, use type, trails, and visitor data from the Angeles Forest Master Plan will be incorporated.

At the local scale, BlueGreen will utilize aerial photography to map all existing local linkages, access points, and trails. A GIS coverage will show impediments to spatial links with surrounding open space and help develop preferred alternatives and design criteria that maximize open space connectivity in project implementation.

*E. Architectural Building Analysis*

Alan Bernstein will inspect existing buildings and review as-built drawings of the existing restaurant, attached garages, attached apartment, and duplex. This initial survey will produce the necessary information required to assess future use potential considering variables such as functional requirements, existing building materials or energy conservation.

He will review recent plans prepared by other consultants and will identify codes and zoning issues that would determine the limits and constraints on various uses for the site and identify building types and styles that would be appropriate for the design guide lines. He will assess the condition of the existing building to determine the feasibility of and addition or remodeling of existing structures. This will ultimately be used in proposing feasible building use alternatives to be discussed in the larger stakeholder process.

*F. Parking and Vehicle Access*

The existing parking lot and access road will be evaluated with respect to current maximum carrying capacity, condition of pavement, and drainage patterns. In addition, access by neighboring property owners through the parking lot will be evaluated.

The team will conduct a review in consultation with the institutional stakeholders in order to understand the traffic volume and pattern. Special attention will be given to available data from the more recent use studies by the forest service. BlueGreen will perform field observations on preferred parking locations and internal circulation patterns and map representative spatial use patterns by visitors in automobiles. At the request of the WCA additional site interviews will be conducted.

*G. Pedestrian Walking and Cycling Routes*

BlueGreen will map representative spatial use patterns by pedestrians and cyclists. Existing biking and walking trails, and their use and condition will be analyzed in order to understand facility availability, demands, and user behaviors. This information will assist Blue Green in planning the trails and park entrance to maximize the use of future parks and trails.

*H. Utility, Infrastructure, Neighboring Properties*

Strom drains, roadways, and other utilities that may support or impact the project development will be identified and incorporated into the mapping efforts. Utilities that may be impacted by the project will be identified and owners or approval authorities will be listed and interviewed to obtain a preliminary understanding of their needs or requirements for possible changes. In addition BlueGreen will contact and interview neighboring property owners to obtain a better understanding of possible future needs or conflicts.

*Deliverables:*

Site Inventory and Site Analysis Report including the following elements:

- Review and summary of existing data according to the above categories
- Data gap analysis
- Summary of collected field data
- Architectural Review
- Updated GIS coverage
- Parking and vehicle access analysis
- Summary of requirements by other property and utility owners and approval authorities

#### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS**

##### A. *Matrix of Opportunities and Constraints*

The analysis of the opportunities and constraints will serve as a basis to develop an initial site program. Based on information gathered during site visits, existing site data, field studies, and preliminary contributions from the community and stakeholders and the technical advisory committee (TAC), BlueGreen will conduct two working meetings with team consultants to produce a tabular matrix of opportunities and constraints. First they will develop an extensive list of opportunities and desired programmatic elements including, but not limited to, the following:

Parking  
 Trails  
 Trail heads  
 Restrooms  
 Trash Recepticals  
 Drinking Fountains  
 Picnicking  
 Bicycle paths, racks, service  
 Interpretive Displays  
 Access road  
 Pedestrian crossing/bridge  
 Offices  
 Stream-bank restoration  
 Floodplain restoration  
 Riparian habitat restoration  
 Habitat connectivity  
 Wildlife corridors

Upland native planting  
 Bird watching areas  
 Fishing  
 Interpretive center  
 Educational facility  
 Restaurant  
 Gateway  
 Play area  
 Camping  
 Equestrian Facilities  
 Rest stops  
 Trash Enclosure  
 Signage  
 Lighting  
 Fencing  
 Storm Drains  
 Water supply protection  
 Water quality treatment

This initial list is compiled without attention to feasibility and cost. The team will specify the basic functional and spatial requirements and identify the spatial locations where each component could reasonably be implemented. This is followed by a detailed analysis of constraints for each component location. Constraints will be categorized as either “physical/biological”, “cost”, “regulatory”, and “other”.

BlueGreen will present the tabular matrix to the TAC and WCA in order to develop a set of preferred components. Project components with multiple locations will be ranked to identify preferred location. An updated tabular matrix of preferred components will be used to develop an initial site program which includes more detailed descriptions of components.

#### *B. Description and Illustration of Preferred Components*

Using the revised matrix of opportunities and constraints BlueGreen will provide more detailed descriptions of preferred components. A preliminary site plan incorporating major components will be produced. For components that are likely to produce substantial cost, the team will perform limited feasibility analyses and estimates of costs. For illustrative purposes the team will produce simple renderings that illustrate layout and character of project components. These renderings will be used in the subsequent stakeholder process.

#### *Deliverables:*

- *Matrix of possible elements/components*
- *Revised matrix*
- *Description of preferred project components with limited design standards*

- *Preliminary site plan with placement of program elements and components*
- *Illustrative renderings*

## **5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM**

### *A. Development of a Community Involvement Program*

BlueGreen will develop a community outreach strategy in coordination with WCA. This Strategy will include the definition of user groups, participating communities, and individual parties with special interests. The Community Involvement Program will outline the number, content and nature of workshops and focus group meetings, including meeting schedules and strategies to inform and notify the public.

In this proposal BlueGreen anticipates that there will be a total of three Steering and Technical Advisory Committee Meetings, and three meetings for Stakeholder Presentations and/or Workshops. BonTerra Consulting is budgeted to participate in the community involvement program by attending up to 5 meetings.

Alan Bernstein and his architectural team is budgeted to participate in six public meetings and will focus on conveying the possibilities of the structures on the site. They will explain possible uses for existing buildings at the site and be able to comment on feasibility of various options that may be favored by agencies, the stakeholders and the public.

### *B. Steering and Technical Committee Meetings*

The team will coordinate with the Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) as the project progresses. Three meetings with the Steering Committee and three meetings with the TAC are anticipated. Each meeting will be conducted prior to the public meetings in order to include any modifications recommended by the committees. Meetings will be attended by team technical experts and discipline leaders.

BlueGreen recommends inviting utilities, adjacent cities, and regulatory/approval agencies to attend the Technical Committee meetings. These agencies and interested parties will provide valuable data and input to the analysis and program development. Their early involvement and understanding of the project issues and needs are critical for ultimate project approval.

### *C. Public Notifications*

The team will notify the public of the stakeholder process in two ways. First the team will cooperate with the steering committee to develop a compilation of interested individuals that have previously been engaged in stakeholder

meetings for the San Gabriel River Master Plan. In addition the team will solicit direct support from key institutional stakeholders in efforts to reach out to interested individuals through direct e-mail notifications and integration in existing newsletters.

Second, the team will mail event invitations to 5000 residents and businesses within a defined geographic area as requested by the Steering Committee. Any additional mailings will be performed as instructed by the Steering Committee at additional direct cost.

#### D.. *Stakeholder Presentations and Workshops*

BlueGreen will start the stakeholder process by interviewing 3-5 engaged individuals and focused user groups identified by the Steering Committee. The objective is to obtain a preliminary understanding of concerns and needs, and to solicit participation for successful community involvement.

BlueGreen anticipates conducting three stakeholder events that consist of presentations by team members that illustrate objectives, goals, and site opportunities and constraints. Presentations are followed by workshops or subgroup discussions to build consensus on project components. Subjects will include, but will not be limited to:

1. Defining a vision for long-term use and enhancement of the project area.
2. Restoring natural habitats lost by urban encroachment.
3. Addressing flooding, vector, and security issues.
4. Increasing the connectivity to other open spaces, trails, and parks within the adjacent communities and drawing design inspiration from the local surrounding area.
5. Eliminating conflicts between park users and vehicles through improved circulation of pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular traffic.
6. Defining benefits of water quality improvement and promoting community participation in NPDES.
7. Defining benefits of water conservation and reuse and promote community appreciation.
8. Identifying major themes evolving from the discussions.
9. Identifying the educational/interpretive design elements, including specific educational programs and facilities for different age groups, schools, adults, non-language users, etc.

#### *Deliverables:*

- *Overview memo of community program strategy*
- *Meeting Schedule*
- *Mailing of 5000 color postcard invitations*

- *Overview memo of stakeholder presentation strategy*
- *Summary minutes for steering committee and TAC meetings*
- *Summary minutes and attendance records for stakeholder meetings*
- *Notes on workshops and focus group meetings*

## **6. SITE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

### A. *Concept Site Program*

After analyzing stakeholder input BlueGreen will produce a short draft or concept site program that specifies a thematic approach to planning and incorporates major design objectives and operational standards that are consistent with the mission of the WCA and the stakeholders. The draft will include a list of required site components and programmatic elements and a site plan locating placement of major components. Following approval by the WCA BlueGreen will produce the Final Site Program.

### B. *Final Site Program*

The final site program will incorporate all approved components of the concept site program but will provide more detail on landscape, habitat restoration and architectural design guidelines. BonTerra and BlueGreen will formulate design guidelines for all project components that involve habitat and stream-bank restoration and produce more accurate cost estimates.

Once the future programmatic use of the buildings is approved Alan Bernstein and his architectural team will expand on specific building types and styles that are appropriate. They will define sustainable strategies for the structures that incorporate consideration of building materials and energy conservation. Depending on the degree of building alterations envisioned by the stakeholders the final site program may specify how to best reuse the existing structures, use recycled materials, salvage building materials and minimize waste. Suggestions may also include how to use local building materials to relate the design to the immediate surroundings. Energy conservation guidelines may include efficient natural ventilation for minimal use of air conditioning and heating systems, passive solar heating, water spray radiant cooling, solar panels for water heating, solar electric panels, high performance glazing, sunshades, insulation, low heat absorbing roofing, and day lighting for interior spaces.

*Deliverables:*

- *Concept Site Program*
- *List of required components and program elements*
- *Plan locating placement of major components*

- *Landscape design objectives and guidelines*
- *Restoration design objectives and guidelines*
- *Architectural standards and design guidelines*
- *Final site program document*

## **7. ALTERNATIVE SITE CONCEPT PLANS**

BlueGreen will develop three distinct preliminary alternatives following the guidelines of the final site program. Design is more than a way to arrange space -- it has to transcend the planning process to enhance a sense of place. A thematic approach to planning incorporates major design objectives within a comprehensive context.

The “themes” developed in the concept site program are used to guide the design process and the development of the site to create a cohesive, focused experience. The theme is the central and most important idea that is being interpreted and provides a perspective from which to approach the content.

The San Gabriel River is the dominant natural feature of the El Encanto site and one of the objectives of this project is to create public access and connectivity to a “Place on the River”. Providing safe trail access to the river and creating observation areas for bird watching and interpretive education will be featured in all three of the alternative concept site plans.

The project offers opportunities for restoring riparian and other diversified habitat communities. The restoration design guidelines provide the basis for restoration plan development and to avoid impacts on existing biological resources. BonTerra Consulting will assist the project team in developing the biological, habitat restoration, and habitat management elements of three alternative concept site plans. Upon acceptance of programming and placement of architectural components the architect will develop three distinct thematic design styles.

### *A. Thematic Selection of Alternatives*

In keeping with the project goals and objectives it is anticipated to have at least one alternative with maximum resources enhancement and stream-bank restoration. Other alternatives may focus on regional visitor services or trail access. Thematic alternatives will be discussed with the WCA and the Steering Committee and ultimately results in a specific list of project components for each alternative.

### *B. Cost Estimates*

BlueGreen and architectural consultants will produce order of magnitude cost estimates for construction and operation/maintenance of each alternative. Permitting requirements and potential funding sources for each alternative will be identified.

*C. Review and Ranking of Alternatives*

Plans will be reviewed by WCA and TAC and presented to the public to decide on the preferred alternative for the Final Site Concept Plan.

*Deliverables:*

- *Three Alternative Site Concept Plans*
- *Draft site program document*
- *Preliminary Cost Estimate*

## **8. PRODUCTION OF FINAL SITE CONCEPT PLAN**

Upon selection of the Preferred Alternative Site Concept Plan, BlueGreen will oversee the production of the Final Site Concept Plan.

- A. Develop final site design concept as instructed by the Steering Committee.
- B. Develop final building design concept as instructed by the Steering Committee.
- C. Develop final restoration design concept as instructed by the Steering Committee.
- D. Coordinate with all team members prior to community workshop process for final plan approval.
- E. Meet with WCA and TAC to review and edit final concept plan for presentation.
- F. Hold Stakeholder meeting to present Final Site Concept Plan.
- G. Finalize concept plan based on final recommendations of Steering Committee.
- H. Two renderings of the final plan will be mounted and framed. The team will prepare final program documents and submit four hard copies and digital copies in a format specified by the WCA Project Manager.
- I. Prepare final project description for the CEQA process.
- J. Finalize site program document. The final site program document will include design basis, implementation, feasibility and costs for the selected alternative and will describe the following components:
  - Open Space Connection
  - Park Boundaries and Future Easement
  - Exterior Access
  - Conceptual Drainage Plan
  - Entrance, Parking, and Interior Circulation Plan
  - Trail, Interpretive Sign, and Rest Stop

- Water Quality BMP Plan
- Habitat Restoration Planting Plan
- Security Program
- Operation/Maintenance Plan
- Phasing Recommendations
- Building layout
- Building program document

Deliverables: Final Program and Selected Alternative

- *Color Rendering of Final Site Plan (2)*
- *Four hardcopies of the Final Site Program Report(4)*
- *Four hardcopies of the Final Site Plan (4)*
- *Digital Files of Work Products*

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PHASING AND CEQA**

### *A PHASING RECOMMENDATION*

BlueGreen will include the implementation sequence recommendations and rationales in the final program document.

### *B CEQA RECOMMENDATIONS*

BonTerra Consulting will review the potential environmental effects of the preferred/selected conceptual site plan and will provide a recommended process for insuring that the Wilderness Park alternative can achieve compliance with CEQA requirements.

Depending on the nature of the proposed project components BonTerra will provide recommendations regarding the appropriate CEQA process and develop a sequential outline that explains all necessary steps and timing required to successfully complete the entire CEQA process.

Deliverables:

- CEQA recommendations
- Recommendations for project phasing

## **10. PRODUCTS AND DELIVERABLES SUMMARY**

### **TASK 1. PROJECT PRELIMINARY REVIEW**

- *Updated scope, budget and schedule*

- *Memos of meetings.*
- *Report and summary table on eligible funding*

**TASK 2. SURVEY – PRODUCTION OF BASE MAP -- GIS**

- *2 Survey Base Maps (electronic and hard copy)*
- *GIS Project*

**TASK 3. COMPREHENSIVE SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS**

*Site Inventory and Site Analysis Report including the following elements:*

- *Review and summary of existing data according to the above categories*
- *Data gap analysis*
- *Summary of collected field data*
- *Architectural Review*
- *Updated GIS coverage*
- *Parking and vehicle access analysis*
- *Summary of requirements by other property and utility owners and approval authorities*

**TASK 4. ANALYSIS OF OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS**

- *Matrix of possible elements/components*
- *Revised matrix*
- *Description of preferred project components with limited design standards*
- *Preliminary site plan with placement of program elements and components*
- *Illustrative renderings*

**TASK 5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM**

- *Overview memo of community program strategy*
- *Meeting Schedule*
- *Mailing of 5000 color postcard invitations*
- *Overview memo of stakeholder presentation strategy*
- *Summary minutes for 3 Steering Committee and 3 TAC meetings*
- *Summary minutes and attendance records for stakeholder meetings*
- *Notes on workshops and focus group meetings*

**TASK 6. SITE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

- *Concept Site Program*

- *List of required components and program elements*
- *Plan locating placement of major components*
- *Landscape design objectives and guidelines*
- *Restoration design objectives and guidelines*
- *Architectural standards and design guidelines*
- *Final site program document*

**TASK 7. ALTERNATIVE SITE CONCEPT PLANS**

- *Three Alternative Site Concept Plans*
- *Draft site program document*
- *Preliminary Cost Estimate*

**TASK 8. PRODUCTION OF FINAL SITE CONCEPT PLAN**

- *Final Selected Alternative Plan, Two Art Renderings in Color*
- *Four hardcopies of the Final Site Program Report(s)*
- *Four hardcopies of the Final Site Plan*
- *Digital File of Work Products*

**TASK 9. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PHASING AND CEQA**

- *CEQA recommendations*
- *Recommendations for project phasing*

**TIME SCHEDULE**

The schedule shown on page 4-23 indicates the anticipated a one year, (12) month, work plan ending June 30, 2007. This assumes no delay in public, WAC, and TAC meetings which will be scheduled regularly at the project start. It also assumes that comments on the deliverables will be incorporated in the subsequent task submittals without holding up the project progress.

**FEE SCHEDULE**

The fee schedule is shown on page 4-24. Not all personnel are shown in the fee proposal. Specific fee breakdown will be available at the beginning of the project as needed. The fee is estimated based on the assumption that the project will take 12 months to complete. BlueGreen anticipates that Lynne Dwyer and Martin Kammerer as joint prime project principals will each be able to devote more than 30% of their time over the next 12 months to lead the project team.

May 22, 2006 – Item 7E  
RESOLUTION 2006-11

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH BLUE GREEN OPEN SPACE PLANNING & DESIGN FOR PLANNING SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE AZUSA RIVER WILDERNESS PARK.

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority has been established to facilitate joint projects between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, the El Encanto property in the Azusa River Wilderness Park is a project that supports the RMC goals and objectives and the RMC has authorized a grant to the WCA for such project; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); NOW

*Therefore be it resolved* that the WCA hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. AUTHORIZES a contract in the amount of \$225,945 with Blue Green Open Space Planning & Design for planning services associated with the Azusa River Wilderness Park.
4. ADOPTS the staff report dated May 22, 2006.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

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Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY on May 22, 2006.

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Frank Colonna, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Terry Fujimoto,  
Deputy Attorney General

**DATE:** **May 22, 2006**

**TO:** **WCA Governing Board**

**FROM:** **Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT:** **Item 7F: Consideration of resolution authorizing the release of a request for proposals for Relocation Services for the El Encanto property.**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the RMC approve a resolution authorizing the release of a request for proposals for relocation services for the El Encanto property.

**BACKGROUND:** On November 21, 2005 the Watershed Conservation Authority authorized the following actions regarding El Encanto and the Azusa River Wilderness Park.

1. Approved the purchase agreement between the Trust for Public Land and the WCA for acquisition of approximately 39 acres of the El Encanto property within the Azusa River Wilderness Park (RMC3260), Assessors Parcel Numbers: 8684-027-001, 8684-027-001, in the City of Azusa. Negotiators: Belinda V. Faustinos, WCA and Brady Moss, Trust for Public Land. Under consideration: Price and terms.
2. Accepted a grant from the California Resources Agency for this project subject to the assignment of these funds by the City of Azusa.
3. Approved budget amendments that would be necessary to acquire, make minor alterations and manage the El Encanto property.

In February of 2006 the purchase of El Encanto was completed with the recording of the deed in the name of the Watershed Conservation Authority. One of the tasks completed in the purchase is a relocation report. The tasks that remained were the minor refurbishments of the restaurant building, the relocation and the planning efforts for the Azusa River Wilderness Park project. Part of the planning process and assessment of the site is relocation of some or all of the tenants on the property.

Relocation of a tenant or tenants is prescribed by the Relocation laws. There was an Inventory Report for the El Encanto Property completed at the time of purchase of El Encanto that gives the WCA an understanding of the regional and specific location of the project, the units and persons residing at the property, an assessment of replacement housing opportunities within the Azusa area and nearby communities and potential relocation costs.

**FISCAL INFORMATION:** It is expected that the costs for the above referenced services will be determined from the proposals and will be expended from the Azusa River Wilderness Park grant (RMC3596).

**EXHIBIT A**

A draft request for proposals will be distributed separately.

May 22, 2006 – Item 7E  
RESOLUTION 2006-12

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR RELOCATION SERVICES FOR THE EL ENCANTO PROPERTY.

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority has been established to facilitate joint projects between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, the El Encanto property within the Azusa River Wilderness Park is a project that supports the RMC goals and objectives and the RMC has authorized a grant to the WCA for such project; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); NOW

*Therefore be it resolved* that the WCA hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. AUTHORIZES the release of a Request for Proposals for Relocation Services for the El Encanto property.
4. ADOPTS the staff report dated May 22, 2006.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

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Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY on May 22, 2006.

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Frank Colonna, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Terry Fujimoto,  
Deputy Attorney General